

Public Libraries

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Planning to Make the Public Library Known

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II

Statistics have been mentioned. These are valuable in their place but are to be used with judgment. They vary in significance, their appeal is rather narrow, and a small dose of them goes a long way. They are not sufficient standing by themselves, but require some interpretation to become effective.

On the other hand, well-chosen figures, presented to the right audience on the proper occasion are very telling. Comparative statistics are especially valuable in appealing for increased support. The comparison may be between present and past performance, between present performance and community needs, or between the local library and other libraries.

Statistics are often most quickly and easily presented by means of graphs. For example, one may have a series of columns each one representing the number of readers who visited the library during each of a series of periods. Useful suggestions for showing statistics in graphic form are given in Brinton's *Graphic methods for presenting facts*, a book for business men and others who have to interpret figures.

Statistics are sometimes effectively reinforced by photographs. For example, if you want to say that so many hundred or thousand children attended the story hour during the year, a picture of a crowded story hour will help to make figures concrete.

Anecdotes of the day's work may be used in news items, speeches, and printed matter. They are useful for arresting attention preparatory to an argument, and for illustrating statements. An anecdote should always be chosen for its point. It should usually illustrate a typical condition. It should not mention names nor be told in such a way as to make the participants easily recognized or feel that confidence has been violated. It should never make the reader seem ridiculous; even a child should not be laughed at. Furthermore, the library can not afford to let itself appear as a gathering place of the odd-minded. For these reasons, the funny anecdote has little or no place in library publicity.

Reference questions can be used in much the same way as anecdotes and are subject to the same general cautions. A question illustrating the use of the library in some important field or a list of questions illustrating the scope of the demand on the library can be put to good use. People like to test their knowledge. There seems no particular reason why the librarian should not occasionally emulate Mr. Edison if she really wants to start something.

We have considered the content of the library message and some of its forms. The next point in order is that of literary style. Lack of time prevents me from suggesting anything further than that the principles of good advertising English are the same as those of other good English. The

essential difference is that advertising English *must* be interesting. Most library writing has a long distance to go in this direction. If I may make a suggestion without seeming presumptuous, it is that many of us would profit by a dose of the medicine which we love to prescribe to our readers, namely, perusal of books on English composition and newspaper writing. A great deal of the tediousness which infects so much library literature, is due to neglect of the common rules of rhetoric. When one has followed these he has cleared away the worst obstacles to "punch," or whatever you care to call that quality which makes a style convincing.

The final point about the library message which I wish to mention is that of sincerity.

Leaders in the advertising world have for some years been laying emphasis on truth in advertising. I do not believe that librarians need to be preached to at much length on the principle, but there are a couple of points on which they sin occasionally in practice.

The first point is the statement that "the library has books on all subjects," or answers questions on any subject. No library ever existed or ever will exist which could or can make such a claim truthfully. What is more, any thoughtful person knows it. When you make an extravagant assertion and people know it to be extravagant, they will discount your other statements. Make no assertion which you cannot make good.

The second form of misrepresentation is more subtle, but also has a bad reaction. It is the publication of lists on special subjects, technical subjects perhaps in particular, in which no distinction is made between up-to-date, useful books and those which are obsolete or otherwise do not apply to local conditions. If you have ten books on a subject and only three are worth while, print the names of those three and leave out the others. If you must print all ten

print them with a caution signal. The little extra circulation you may get by parading an old book won't pay for the ultimate damage to the library's reputation.

Now that we have decided on our library message, let us consider some of the means or mediums by which we may convey it.

Advertising mediums which libraries have used with success include newspapers, publications of local organizations, employee house organs, lists published by the library, leaflets, folders, circular letters, postal notices of new books, bulletin boards, printed or hand lettered posters, contests for children, exhibits, lantern slides and films in motion picture houses, library bulletins, and bookmarks. To these should be added certain personal methods, namely, talks by the librarian, membership in local organizations, and interviews with influential people.

Among these, I have picked out three for discussion, namely, newspapers, printed lists, and exhibits.

Newspapers. In the small town, the local paper is perhaps even more valuable as a means of publicity than in the large city. It is read more thoroly, it is in greater need of news, an item in it occupies a larger proportion of space than in the city paper and does not have to compete for attention with so much other matter. It comes as near to being read by everybody as any medium can.

Newspaper publicity may include news items, feature stories, lists, book reviews, interviews with the librarian, editorial notice, and paid advertisements.

Paid advertising as a regular practice is probably out of the question for most libraries, and we will therefore dismiss it briefly. Its advantages are that you can say exactly what you wish to say at the time you wish to say it, and as often and as regularly as you like. Its drawbacks are that it is expensive, and that it is at once recognizable as advertising and dis-

counted as such. In more conservative communities, one may furthermore have to consider whether people will be led to think that the library has more money than it needs for books and is therefore using it up on advertising. The fact that many people preserve a prejudice against advertising makes this possibility not at all imaginary.

Fortunately, the library can obtain in the news columns a kind of publicity which is extremely valuable and costs nothing. Advertising men rate very highly a write-up in the news columns because it is usually free from the commercial implications of ordinary paid advertising and may appear on pages from which paid, competitive advertising is barred. The cash value of news space for advertising effect has been reckoned at a dollar a line so that it is not to be sneered at.

In dealing with a newspaper, the first thing is to consider the newspaper standpoint. Newspaper space represents money value. Editors are constantly being approached by people who want free publicity for some activity, which, however worthy, is worthless as news. In self defense they have to be hard headed and hard hearted. Therefore do not go to an editor with the plea that the library is a deserving institution and needs the publicity. You may need it but that is not the way to get it. Think of what the editor wants, that is, news, and help him in his pursuit.

What is news? According to one definition, "News is anything of interest, importance or significance to a number of people."

The interests of readers have been classified as follows:

1. Timely happenings.
2. Contests for supremacy. (Local sports, society, competitions with other towns) People like to take sides.
3. The strange, mysterious, or unusual.
4. Children and pets. Practically all readers are interested in children and most people like pets.

5. Matters concerning the property, life, and well being of fellow men. Matters of tradition and sentiment.
6. Hobbies and amusements.

Let us translate some of these requirements into terms of library news material.

Timeliness. This applies to notices and lists of new books, lists on topics of current interest, new forms or applications of service, notable exhibits, current statistics, the annual report and noteworthy gifts.

Contests. Here classify comparative figures or statements showing the library beating its own record or the record of other libraries.

The strange and unusual. One writer calls newspapers "crazy on freak statistics," and suggests the number of linear feet which a library's books would occupy if laid out in a straight line, and similar edifying computations.

Children. My favorite example of a children's anecdote is that of the little girls, who after searching the shelves in vain for any book of fairy stories, finally discovered one waiting to be carded. Then they began playing "Eeny, meeny, miny, mo" to see who should have it. This story had human interest and called attention to the depleted state of the children's collection which was what the librarian was after. Best of all, the paper printed it.

Matters of tradition and sentiment. The library is the natural repository of material on local history. Exhibits of books, documents, and curiosities illustrating this subject will always interest many people, and the reporter should be invited in to look at the display and write it up.

In preparing copy for the press, observe the ordinary rules of good grammar and rhetoric. One should, however, pay especial attention to simplicity and conciseness. Hence favor short rather than long sentences. One writer has found that journalists favor a sentence length of about thirty words. Furthermore, use short paragraphs to break up too solid an effect.

A plain, straightforward statement of facts from which the reporter or editor can write up his own story is always in order. Nevertheless, as the editor is a busy man, if you can cast your contribution into a form which he can use as it stands, he will be grateful and you will be better satisfied with the result.

The ordinary news story begins with a sentence or paragraph which gives the gist of the whole article. Then follow paragraphs, each of which enlarges on some point covered by the first paragraph or adds supplemental minor information. An article submitted in this form is easily and quickly condensed with a blue pencil and therefore stands a much better chance of being accepted than the contribution which has to be rewritten before it can be used. For further suggestions on news writing, see any of the numerous textbooks on the subject. They will repay study.

Final suggestions for cultivating satisfactory relations with newspapers are first to render the editor the same library service that you would the head of any important public or semi-public institution. I am speaking now particularly of the smaller town or city where to cultivate acquaintance is easier. If the newspaper is campaigning for some object of public welfare and a new, important book on that subject comes out, see that the editor knows about it. Make it easy for the newspaper to borrow reference material when it needs it.

In calling on the editor, consider when he is least likely to be rushed. For the city editor of a morning or evening paper, this hour is likely to be about 3 p. m. Monday is a slack day for news. Some of your contributions can be timed accordingly.

In undergoing interviews be frank and courteous with the reporter. Help him to get his story. If you know he is coming, it is well in the case of important news to have a brief written

statement of the facts with which he can refresh his memory and verify his notes.

Lists. Lists, printed or mimeographed, are useful in many ways. They both guide and encourage reading. Distributed in the library, they afford clues to library resources which the reader may not otherwise suspect of existing, and so maintain his interest. They frequently save the librarian's time by taking the place of a personal recommendation.

Outside the library, they can be distributed in schools, thru the mailing lists of friendly organizations, from store counters and in other ways, thus reaching non-users of the library. They can be used for mailing to selected individuals. Editors will often print such lists, thus giving them a still wider circulation.

When a library does not find lists very useful, one may suspect that the book collection is unsatisfactory, that the selection of subjects for lists or book titles could be improved, that the lists are too long, that they are not well-edited in regard to notes and arrangement, that they are unattractive to the eye, or that the scheme for distributing them is faulty.

Lists are compiled in many ways, but our experience in Cleveland has been that successful lists are ordinarily short rather than long, selective rather than inclusive, limited as to subject or purpose, furnished with notes or other necessary editing, and planned to meet some popular need or interest.

If one may lay down a principle for compiling an effective list, it is "Know your books; know your public, and make it easy for the two to get acquainted by sensible editing."

Brevity is important because a long list is likely to repel the reader. A short list is easier and less expensive to revise. An individual copy is less of a loss if a reader uses it for scratch paper. (*Mem.* Print your lists on both sides.) Newspapers are more likely to accept short lists than long ones.

Lists should usually be selective rather than comprehensive. Books of poor or doubtful quality, of by-gone value or distinctly limited appeal should be barred out because they are likely to disappoint or mislead. One should furthermore keep one's audience in mind and choose titles with reference to its needs and capacity. For example, if you are compiling a list on steam engineering for engine runners and firemen, the books by Swingle and Roper will be suitable, but a work on steam engine design is out of place.

Lists should be limited in subject. The elaborate lists which libraries occasionally publish on the Useful Arts are extreme examples of what not to attempt. A bricklayer has nothing in common with a mechanical engineer nor with a technical chemist, nor with a plumber, nor with a locomotive fireman. Nor have engineer, chemist, plumber and fireman anything to do with each other, even though Dewey puts them all inside the same fence. Such a list is impressive but is at least nine-tenths waste paper to any reader (except a librarian) who uses it, besides being expensive to print and out of date before it is published.

From the standpoint of the ordinary library, a very effective and much less expensive substitute is a series of short lists on subjects of local interest, which can be individually revised or reprinted as necessary.

Notes in lists are desirable because they make the list more interesting and help the reader to select his books intelligently.

Notes should be brief, they should supplement information given in the title, and should in general be descriptive and appreciative rather than critical. If a book has some serious fault, say so. If its style or treatment limits it to some special class of readers, mention that. Sources for notes in addition to the text itself are the *Book Review Digest*, the *Booklist*, magazine reviews, preface, and table of contents.

To give a list a less formal appearance, one can throw it into the form of an article or bookchat. Notes to individual titles can be reduced and repetition avoided by using a general note as a preface and by classifying the list. The more specific the list, the less annotation is necessary.

The chief difficulty which a library faces in publishing lists is the matter of cost. Printing is expensive. There are, however, ways to reduce or avoid cost thru careful planning, coöperative methods, and manifold devices which the library can own and operate itself.

The biggest item in a printing bill is the charge for composition or setting up the type. Keep this figure down, by making your lists short, by omitting authors' initials, by employing brief titles, and by leaving out editions, dates, and call numbers. Pare down your notes by taking care not to repeat in the note what the title already says or implies, and by omitting mere bibliographical information. Study to condense. For example, the phrase, "Written for the purpose of interesting boys in woodcraft," you can reduce to "Woodcraft for boys," which is about one third as long. If your whole list is popular or practical or what not, make that clear in your title or introductory note, and do not repeat the idea in the note to each separate title.

Economy again enters in in estimating the number of copies to be printed. Therefore consider the number of people you expect to reach; but it is much less expensive to overestimate somewhat than to underestimate and have to reprint before revision is necessary.

Changes on proof, except the correction of printers' errors, are charged to the author and easily become very expensive. Cutting out or adding a single word may mean resetting a whole paragraph or rearranging a whole page. Therefore let your copy be absolutely correct and final before you give it to the printer.

Consult with your printer on the size of your page. Paper comes in regular sized sheets. A slight difference in the size of a page may mean much waste in cutting and hence added expense.

Money outlay can sometimes be avoided by coöperative methods. Public spirited organizations will sometimes undertake to publish a list if the library will compile it. For example, a list of Best Books for Boys was recently published in Middletown, Ohio, by the Library and the Boy Scouts working together. Chambers of Commerce have coöperated on lists for store employees.

Another method: If a newspaper prints a list, arrange with the editor to save the slugs when the type is distributed after printing, and have extra copies struck off from them. The library should in such a case offer to stand the cost of paper and press work. This should be trifling.

Another suggestion is to coöperate with the schools especially for school and children's lists. School print shops offer possibilities. But one should not expect a school print shop to undertake a long list nor demand from it professional looking typography.

Publishers and book dealers occasionally get out lists which are adaptable to library use, for example, on business. If such a list comes to hand

which has a substantial majority of its titles in the library, write to the publishers for as many copies as you think you can use, explaining the purpose to which you wish to put them. When they come, rubber stamp each copy with some legend like this:

Most of these books, or books equally good, are in the Public library.

Another form of coöperation is that of one library with another. This has been tried occasionally, chiefly as far as I know by larger libraries but has never really "caught on." The difficulties are that no two libraries are exactly alike in their book collections or in their community conditions and that librarians differ in their estimate of books. The longer the list, the worse these difficulties become. There seems to be no reason, however, why two or more libraries of about the same size and located in similar communities should not get together successfully for simple, short lists on subjects of common interest, and split the expense. It is not necessary for a library to have every single title on such a list to be able to use it. I should say that four-fifths would be a reasonable minimum. One can always use a rubber stamp to the effect that most of the books, or books equally good, are in the library.

(To be Continued)

Elements in Reading Guidance

Hannah Logasa, librarian, University high school, Chicago

Vocational guidance is familiar to us; reading guidance is not so well known. The psychological and social considerations that enter into the reading guidance of high school pupils are:

Sex of the pupil

Stage of adolescence

Background—home

Background—elementary school

Reading age

Classroom interests

Library influence

Personal interests

Mood

Time element

Secondary considerations

Sex of pupil

At one time it was a formula to have certain books for boys and a different type for girls. No doubt there are books which make a special appeal to girls, and others which supply the food for the emotional needs of boys, but for general reading they enjoy much the same type of books. All the books about out-of-door adventure, the animal stories, the stories of boys' school life are popular with the girls. In any good list of books for high school pupils, the number of books for boys predominates and that is as it should be, for they are more sincere, vigorous, wholesome and free from affectation. These qualities make them eminently suited for girls' reading under the present system of education. Although for general reading the tastes of boys and girls are much the same, the fact that there are inherent emotional differences in their re-actions to different phases of life, must not be overlooked. Girls feel the pathos in *The Vicar of Wakefield*. Boys feel the same emotion in *The Toilers of the Sea*.

Stage of adolescence

Lists which "fence off" books suitable for sixth, seventh, eighth grade, etc., do not take into consideration that the majority of pupils are physically, mentally, and emotionally not to be

put into such categories. The upper grade reading material is suited for high school pupils, and some of the so-called high school material may well be read in the grades. Then, too, the mature seniors are quite equal to the books listed in elementary college courses. What stage has the pupil reached in his adolescence? His interests are a clue to this. Two freshman pupils are of equal rank in their class work, and of equal capabilities, yet one prefers *St. Nicholas* while the other finds that magazine beneath his dignity and prefers *The Open Road* magazine. Many freshman girls cling tenaciously to *Alcott's Little Women*, because they are themselves very little girls, not because they are not mentally equal to reading more mature books. For the same reason high school boys will read and re-read Pyle's *Robin Hood*. There is a great variation in reading taste, depending on their stage of adolescence, not necessarily the result of difference in reading ability. The high school pupil has an ever shifting change of interests and view points as different stages of growth are reached. These must have an outlet. This groping for wider self-expression should be carefully studied in order that the right stimulus may be given for the nerve stability so much needed.

Home background

Background is the large name for a variety of things: cultured home surroundings, "newly-rich" home surroundings, intellectually barren home surroundings. The home influences the outside reading to a considerable extent. Much of the reading of the "best sellers" is a home product, as is also the reading of short stories in current periodicals. Some of the best reading habits can be traced to a well selected home library, and the upbuilding influence of cultured parents; some of the poor habits to the opposite conditions at home. Whole sets

of gaudy editions of the masters bought to furnish a library is not conducive to a love for the interiors of these books. A few books well chosen and an atmosphere of refinement and appreciation of the treasures of thought will go a long way toward infecting children with a love for what is art. On the other hand, the attitude in the home of derision for what is old in literature and the chase for new sensational books can undo the work of the teacher and librarian in their efforts to train pupils in true appreciation.

Elementary school background

Very important indeed is the reading done while in the elementary school. There is a great deal of duplication in the transition between the elementary and the high school which makes for a waste of the pupil's time. Just what training in literature and what reading habit does the pupil possess when he enters the high school? It is very rarely that a well defined, consistent correlation exists between the elementary and the high school, and as a result the high school teaches again some of the literature already familiar to the pupil. On the other hand there are wide reading gaps between the elementary and the high school, which are never bridged over. This is the opportunity of the high school librarian. By guidance, the reading of the pupils with a good background can be directed to higher levels. Where a reading gap is noticeable that gap can be bridged over. Many pupils come into the high school who have not read Robinson Crusoe, Gulliver's Travels, Alice in Wonderland. When we consider the allusions to these books that are met with in subsequent reading, this oversight is a real loss.

Reading age

No experiment has yet been completed which gives a workable scheme by which we can determine the reading age of pupils. It is not a scientific attitude to assume that the reading age

and the class in school to which the pupil belongs are the same. My most discriminating readers were two girls in the sophomore class. These pupils had the reading age of college students—this due to favorable background; the public library habit; adequate instruction in the elementary school; and reading guidance in the high school. With a good background of classics, these pupils had a standard of judgment, and a real discriminating attitude towards modern literature. Meredith, Hardy, Galsworthy and Conrad, they have added to their book friends.

As a rule, the reading we determine as suitable for pupils of high school age is too hard for the average pupil. When literature is too difficult the pupil gets only a fraction of the thought. We have many pupils in the upper classes who get no more from the printed page than do the pupils in the lower grades. I have found two senior boys to whom Pyle's *Men of Iron* was their outside reading level altho as "lesson-learners" they had to digest far more difficult material.

The reading habit under guidance will show marked upward tendencies. One junior boy, the motor type, slow and laborious in his lesson getting, who had not formed the reading habit, with a reading gap between elementary and high school which had not been bridged over, came under my reading guidance. With a knowledge of his needs, I set about to give him the books in consecutive order which would hold his interests and yet increase his reading age. The following is the list of books:

Robinson Crusoe, De Foe; In the Fog, Davis; The Varmint, Johnson; The Three Musketeers, Dumas; Soldiers Three, Kipling; Quentin Durward, Scott; Tale of Two Cities, Dickens; Silas Marner, Eliot.

Class-room interests

What influences pupils to read a book? Perhaps the teacher has read an episode from a book. Such reading

caused a brisk demand for Shaw's *The Story of a Pioneer*. By proper infection a teacher of a course in Ancient civilization caused a very epidemic for historical novels; the five copies of Davis' *A Friend of Caesar* were in constant circulation; Bulwer Lytton's *The Last Days of Pompeii* was a coveted reading morsel and there was a waiting list for Wallace's *Ben Hur*. A gentle voiced teacher who loved poetry, by her sympathetic reading infected her class with a desire to continue their acquaintance with poetic thought. Obviously the course in Drama directs and influences the outside reading into a well directed channel. General science is a good infection for an interest in popular science, which makes Pasteur, Darwin, Huxley, Hudson, Burroughs, and Thoreau familiar names. The Social Sciences are responsible for the interest pupils find in books that take up the problem of our living together, and this reading has a socializing influence which is noticeable in the attitude of the pupils as school citizens.

Library influence

The library is the dominant influence in developing the voluntary reading of high school pupils. A well selected collection of books, an atmosphere of relaxation and quiet, a sympathetic, understanding librarian, and you have a brand of reading infection to which the pupils will succumb. I cannot stress too much the element of well directed enthusiasm which the librarian must possess in order that she may take advantage of the intellectual interests aroused in the pupil by his school experiences and home influences, in order that she may start and keep alive the interest in literature. Only a militant lover of literature, a student in the psychology of adolescence can be a good carrier of the reading germ.

Outside classroom assignments can be made to taste sugar coated if interest is aroused in the thing assigned. In the library much of the sugar coat-

ing must be done. One boy frankly hostile to the assignment that he read and report on *The Vicar of Wakefield* was inveigled into undertaking the reading. The librarian sketched the very pleasant episode in the book which related the painting of the picture of the vicar and his family; a picture so large that when it was finished it could not be brought into the house because of its huge dimensions. A group of senior girls were discussing social climbers. The librarian by an allusion to Becky Sharp in that connection created a demand for *Vanity Fair*.

Personal interests

Music or art is the personal interest of a great number of high school pupils. These have their special technique and require a training which the high school does not furnish above a very elementary stage. But it is in the high school that reading on these subjects should be established, so that it is not only the skilled hand but also the trained mind that is brought to these arts. Journalism is a never ending source of special interest. Both boys and girls seem to have this as a hobby. Books of information on all phases of the subject are plentiful, and the school paper gives pupils actual practice. Ferber's *Dawn O'Hara* gives girls the romance of the newspaper office while Davis' *Soldiers of Fortune* shows that there is no limit to the adventure in a reporter's life. In many personal interests there is an aptitude which leads to a future vocation. These special gifts which the pupils possess are precious things which well selected reading will refine and make strong, and which experience and specialized training will make useful.

Moods

Subjective states are real manifestations. There are times when one feels gay and other times when one is grave. Young people have changing moods. Books there are for every changing mood. The effect on moral growth

and nerve stability when the right book is given to the pupil at the right psychological moment cannot be over-estimated. The request for a book that is "funny" comes very often, and is not easy to satisfy. Few books which are primarily humorous come up to the standard of art. I have found the following answer the need:

The Cricket on the Hearth, Dickens; The Four Million, O. Henry; The Man Who Married a Dumb Wife, France; The Varmint, Johnson; The Sprightly Romance of Marsac, Seawell; The Casting Away of Mrs Lecks and Mrs Aleshine, Stockton; The Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court, Mark Twain.

Nothing but an exciting book will hold the pupil's interest when he is in an indifferent state. Fortunately, good books of romance are plentiful. These failing to please, out-of-door adventures are sure to satisfy the mood that requires stimulation. At times browsing in the library is the best way for the pupil to find just the book that answers his subjective state and reading taste. Taking for granted a well chosen collection of books, this browsing results in finding a treasure house of intellectual gold. A girl discovered that mushrooms made a good hobby after she had read Latham's *When Marty Lends a Hand*. A boy revived his interest in photography, influenced by a new book on the subject he found on the library shelves.

Time element

Man is the only animal who is ruled by a time piece. Time is an important element to be considered. Reading is only one of the outside interests of the high school pupils; physical training, games and sports, the automobile, the moving picture, the greater social complexity, all clamor for attention. That is why the short story and the story that is short have come to stay. Periodical literature is popular because it answers the demand for reading that can be finished at one sitting. Such

books as Davis' *The Bar Sinister*, and *In the Fog*, owe a great deal of their popularity to the fact that they can be read in forty minutes. Marjory Daw by Aldrich is the right length to fill pleasantly a study period. A pupil with but fifty minutes to spend in reading must be given one of these two things:

a) A story, drama, poem, book of travel, (according to the taste of the pupil) which will fill the time he has to spend in reading, or

b) A long book which will so grasp the pupil's interest that he will be eager to finish it at some other time. Should the long story be dull, the result is another book the pupil has started, found indifferent, and left unfinished.

Secondary considerations

1) Reading for a definite purpose. This refers to the college entrance requirements. Pupils really need a helping hand and encouragement with these. Well illustrated, large type editions make the reading more attractive. If the pupil can discuss these books with some one to whom these books mean more than a means to an end, the pupil will not only get the mental growth, but will also retain much he needs for his examinations. Such an essay as Carlyle's *Life of Burns*, will be better understood if some preliminary enthusiasm for Burns is aroused.

2) The moving picture influences what pupils read. I had a great demand for Stevenson's *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* because the pupils had seen the film. Many of the demands created by the "movies" it is undesirable to supply, but we should welcome any demand for good literature they create.

3) Pupils infect each other with the love for a book. I recommended Bjornson's *The Fisher Lass* to a girl. When she returned it another pupil was eager to have it, and so the book circulated from pupil to pupil. In like manner, Lorimer's *The Letters of a*

Self-made Merchant to his Son proved to be a reading epidemic among the older boys.

Conclusion

The aim of reading guidance should be to inspire pupils with an intellectual

interest so strong that it is a driving force. Technique for this type of guidance is yet in its infancy. I have pointed out some of the elements which must be taken into consideration.

State-Wide Library Service*

Julia A. Robinson, secretary, Iowa library commission, Des Moines

"Books for everybody" as a slogan is of recent origin, but has been the aim of library workers thru most of the years of the modern library movement. To Benjamin Franklin probably belongs the first effort in this direction, when he inaugurated what he said would be the "mother of all subscription libraries in America" but which was really the stepmother as well of our free public libraries, for his was an attempt, if I read the accounts aright, to provide books for general readers which is the principle on which our public library system of today is built.

The evolution was not rapid, but the sentiment for free books for the use of all grew and took form, first in laws for town-supported libraries in one state after another, until today provisions for free library service for city residents stand on the statute books of nearly, if not all, our states.

Tho it is only recently that we have voiced our aim of books for everybody, we have not been as slow in declaring our conviction that "libraries are an integral part of public education" and this principle, with the responsibility assumed by the state of state support and state supervision of public schools, has, without doubt, had its influence in the acceptance of the same responsibility by the state for library service.

But before that became a fact, this sentiment was strengthened and the feasibility of a plan by which this responsibility might be put into action,

was shown in various ways. One was the growth of the city library work thru branches and stations for carrying books to portions of the city remote from the main source of supply.

Another was the experiment with traveling libraries, tried by religious and other organizations and by women's clubs. The latter aided greatly in creating the demand which led finally to provisions for the circulation of free books thru the state.

The first plan for state-wide library service was outlined by Mr Melville Dewey, state librarian of New York, in 1889, adopted by the regents of the State university of New York, an appropriation secured in 1892, and the first box of books sent out the next year.

The New York system became the example and pattern for systems in other states which followed with laws and appropriations, and today a state traveling library system more or less vigorous exists in over half of the states of the union.

As the first manifestations of this state-wide responsibility was the passage of city library laws, these were followed by other laws providing for the promoting of the establishment and efficiency of such libraries. Hence, preceding or simultaneously with the provision for traveling library systems, there have been created in many states, library commissions, charged with extension of public library privileges thru new libraries and the improvement of those already in existence.

*From address before A. L. A. meeting, 1921.

To the state library commissions, the operation of a traveling library has been given as a second activity in eighteen states. In eight states, the traveling library is operated by the state library, and in three, it is under the department of education. County library systems are sufficiently developed in two states to take the place of state service.

A brief review of the library facilities of the states, with the special work of each library may serve to show that tho the field may seem to be well covered, there is still need of further book supply. Of these various libraries, we may well place first city libraries, supported by the cities for the use of their residents. But in many states the number of cities and towns large enough to support a library adequately, has been nearly reached, and we must look for some other means of supply if the people of the state are to have the privilege of reading.

In addition to its public libraries, each state contains school libraries. Their inability to supply the book needs of the people, lies in their limited number in most states, their inadequacy in many because of small and poorly selected book selections, the lack of proper organization and administration and because the reason for their existence is the formal educational one, and books for recreational reading and for adults are wanting. Third are college and other reference libraries, but these are intended for research work alone and not for general reading.

County libraries exist in growing numbers in different states and are being pushed in many more and to them we must look in the future for the solution of our problem, but in two states only, California and Utah, have they grown to such numbers as to fill all book needs, and in many states there is yet no county system. Therefore, if any attempt is made for a number of years to come to supply the "other half" of our population with books, it must be thru traveling library systems.

Among the accomplishments of the traveling library, the following may be named. It increases the educational facilities of a state by furnishing books and other material to supplement school libraries and social work. It aids women's clubs by supplying material to carry out their programs and also assists in the preparation of these programs. It creates the desire for public libraries in communities able to support them and loans books of limited appeal to small libraries, leaving the local book fund for the purchase of books of wider demand. It makes available to the remotest corners of the state, reference material which would otherwise require a long journey to consult. It loans books to small communities, rural churches, clubs of all kinds and to individual borrowers who would otherwise be bookless.

In short, it establishes a standard for reading. Also library service imparts a stimulating effect and lends confidence to all literary undertakings by a certainty of support and a supply of needs, thereby raising the entire intellectual level of the state by its existence and help.

The essentials for ideal work are sufficient appropriation to secure an adequate, well-selected book collection, a competent staff, sufficient help and high enough salaries to command such help, publicity which will carry information of the resources of the library to all in the state needing its help, facilities for reference work with a trained reference librarian, well equipped rooms and ability to secure sufficient supplies and printing.

The first limitation of such state service as I have described is the financial one, because of the increased cost of library work by mail, the larger force necessary to handle the work and the loss of the use of books in time required for transportation. The second limitation is in service to users in the smaller collections at hand and the

greater delay in securing books, but above all is the fact that all the people of the state will never be served in this way.

The ideal, therefore, would seem to be city and county libraries supplying the ordinary book demands and in addition, a state department for the fostering of these libraries and the maintenance of a book collection to serve the state thru these larger units in

supplying books* of limited local demand.

Until we are much nearer that ideal in our county systems, state-wide library service will continue to be needed. With adequate support, its possibilities for good are almost unlimited.

Let us therefore pray for liberal-minded and broad-visioned legislators who shall be as anxious as we that the state shall do its full share in providing books for everybody.

In the Letter Box

Wanted—A Better Way

My dear Editor:

"I am all at sea when I see 'See' or 'See also'" is the cry of many a student using library catalogs or library indexes. Scarcely a one of them knows how to proceed when he or she meets those mystic symbols. Only the other day, a girl came to me bringing the *Readers' Guide*, and pointing to the heading "Philippine Islands—Roads, see Roads—Philippine Islands,"—"What does it mean?" asked she—"Does it mean I must go look it up in the encyclopedia?" Another girl told me that on looking into our catalog for medieval history, and seeing only the heading "Medieval history, see History, Medieval," she gave it up in despair and went without her book. Now it is easy to appreciate that these two symbols are rather indefinite *per se* to the uninitiated. Can anything be done to make our catalogs better fit the layman's mind in this particular? In my library school we used the symbols "To be found in this catalog under" or "To be found also in this catalog under." Can't such an improvement be generally made or some other still better scheme be devised? Have other libraries found these terms indefinite?

Very truly yours,

A REFERENCE LIBRARIAN.

One Dollar per Capita

The Editor:

One of the most important steps in library progress taken in several years was the adoption of the following resolution by the Council of the American Library Association on December 30, 1921. I hope you will print the resolution in your periodical as a measuring stick for public libraries everywhere.

CARL H. MILAM,
Secretary.

The American Library Association believes that \$1 per capita of the population of the community served is a reasonable minimum annual revenue for the library in a community desiring to maintain a good modern public library system with trained librarians.

This sum should cover a main library with reading room facilities, branch libraries and reading rooms within easy reach of all the people, a registration of card holders equal to at least thirty per cent of the population, and a considerable collection of the more expensive books of reference, with a home use of about five volumes per capita per year.

This allowance of per capita revenue may need modification in the case of very small or very large communities, or communities which are otherwise exceptional. Small communities may often obtain increased library service for the same expenditure per capita by enlarging the area of administration. The situation in large communities is often modified by the presence of good endowed libraries free for public use.

Communities desiring their libraries to supply these needs extensively and with the highest grade of trained service, will find

it necessary to provide a support much larger than the minimum of \$1 per capita. This should cover extension work sufficient to bring home to the children, the foreign speaking people, business men, artisans, advanced students, public officials, and in general all classes of the people the opportunities that such a library is not only ready but able to afford, with a service that is administered by trained librarians having special knowledge in their particular departments.

It is expected that the American Library Association at some later meeting will adopt similar resolutions on library revenues for high school, normal school, university and college libraries.

Recruiting for Library Work

To Every Librarian, Everywhere:

The A. L. A. committee on recruiting and other recruiting committees are doing what they can to see that librarianship as a desirable profession is brought to the attention of educated young men and women who are adapted to it. The best recruiting work, however, is that done by the individual librarian in talking to small groups of students or in informal conversation with his friends. The article by Mary E. Hazeltine on "Recruiting for librarianship" in the *Wisconsin Library Bulletin* for December 1921, is the right sort. It will suggest ways in which you can help.

J. J. JENNINGS,

Chairman, A. L. A. recruiting committee.

The Reference Instinct

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

In response to an inquiry that came to our reference department for information about Hiram Abif, I found myself consulting the Encyclopedia of freemasonry, in which was found a full account. This is a book seldom consulted by us, and therefore rose the question why I had gone to it.

Suddenly it came to me that, as a child twenty-five years ago, I had once heard a man mention Hiram Abif. What was said about him had been forgotten, but I did remember that in some way his name had been associated with freemasonry. This asso-

ciation, dormant for years, had risen instantaneously from the subconscious mind and sent me to the Encyclopedia of freemasonry.

Experiences similar to this are common to reference workers. Yet each one leaves us wondering of what stuff the mind is made, and what is the reason for these resurrections from the dead past. Will not some librarian who is a student of psychology please write an article for one of our library periodicals on the "Subconscious mind and its activities in reference work?" Such an article surely would have many interested readers.

MARY McCLELLAN SNUSHALL,

Reference librarian.

Public library, Lynn, Mass.

February 11, 1922.

Missing Papers

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The General library of the University of Michigan has published a facsimile of the *Detroit Gazette*, the first newspaper published in the state of Michigan. This work is being done for subscribing libraries, reproducing the file owned by the Burton historical collection, of the Detroit public library.

This file lacks the issues of December 19, 1823 (No. 335) and January 9, 1824 (No. 338). If any library possesses a copy of these two numbers, may we not have information of it in order to secure a negative from which we can make prints for our subscribers?

In reproducing the file of the *Kentucky Gazette* from 1787 to 1800, which has just been completed for the subscribers, we were able to supply several numbers missing from the Lexington public library copy. We have had similar good fortune with the *Detroit Gazette*, but have been unable to locate by correspondence these particular numbers.

Very respectfully,

WM. W. BISHOP,
Librarian.

University of Michigan.

January 30, 1922.

Mending*

It's very hard to understand
 (Altho I'm dull I know)
 Why mending books is drudgery
 As many deem it so.

To me it is the finest game
 When pages fall apart
 To make them good as new again;
 I can hardly wait to start!

Let artists paint their pictures
 While I daub in the glue;
 For art shall always mean to me
 An old book turned out new.

Each time I mend King Arthur
 I see the children smile
 To find their hero brought to life.
 Come, let us mend awhile!

G. F. J.

The City library of Springfield, Mass., has prepared an attractive slip to put into books which are delivered to those who have their names on the "reserve list." The slip bears the following:

Have You Waited for a Book?

The accompanying book is one for which other readers are waiting. They will appreciate your consideration if you will return the book just as soon as you finish it, and doubtless by returning their books promptly will make it easier for you to get the book you want.

To furnish the books asked for WHEN they are asked for, is the Library's constant endeavor and hardest problem. If one hundred and thirty readers—less than one out of each thousand of population—want an expensive new book, it is obviously impossible with the funds available to provide them all with the same book at the same time. The library buys extra copies liberally, and aims to pro-

vide just as many as will be used for a reasonable length of time.

Promptness in returning books, by increasing the turn-over may easily be equivalent to doubling the supply.

Proportion of Men and Women in A. L. A.

In answer to an inquiry sent to the A. L. A. Headquarters in regard to the proportion between the numbers of men and women engaged in library work, a calculation of the individual members shows that 791 are men and 3597 are women, a little more than four times as many.

Certification in California

At a meeting of the Certification committee of the California library association held in January, 1922, the national certification scheme presented by Dr Williamson to the American Library Association, was adopted as the certification plan for California. It was the feeling of the committee that it should be leniently applied to those already in the profession, but more strictly adhered to for those just entering library work. The committee expects to have the application blanks in the hands of California librarians early this spring, so that action may be taken prior to the next annual meeting. This is the result of repeated effort on the part of the librarians in California to standardize library service in the state. In 1917, a tentative bill was drawn up, but was not introduced into the legislature. In 1919 a bill was introduced, which, however, failed to pass. In 1921 it was thought best not to try state legislation, but to first adopt a voluntary system of certification under the association. It is with confidence, therefore, that California librarians look forward to the raising of the standard of library service thru the adoption of the plan of the Committee on National certification.

E. L. C.

*In answer to "Annie's in the Library Mending Books" which appeared in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for January, 1922.

Monthly—Except August
and September.

Public Libraries

M. E. Ahern, Editor

6 No. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Current single number - - - -	35 cents
Five copies to one library - -	\$12 a year	Foreign Subscriptions - - -	\$3.50 a year

By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under.

In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Contributions for current numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

Worth an A. L. A. Discussion

ONE of the most highly technical workers, in one of the large libraries of the country, in speaking of the library atmosphere some time ago, expressed the following sentiments:

"I consider PUBLIC LIBRARIES valuable and have rarely felt unsympathetic reactions or serious reservations on its library policies. I only regret that I cannot take part. It is true that even skimming over the contents has to be put off at times, but neglect to send in the subscription was merely an oversight.

It is as if this huge creature of which we are part, were ever growing more and farther-reaching tentacles to draw in matter and swallow it without corresponding development of its organs of assimilation. In fact, energy in

other directions has been almost entirely increased at the expense of the digestive apparatus. Or, changing the metaphor, the plant is expanding and taking on new activities without special provision or new equipment—on the contrary, in addition to placing heavy strain on the existing machinery "they" economize by diluting the lubricating fluid (debasement of the medium of compensation) and pay no heed that under the circumstances they are only able to replace lost or broken parts by imitation pieces of wood painted to look like iron. Under these conditions there is no chance for the engineers and machinists to look up and around. They are kept busy to keep the thing from going to bits."

There must be a way out of such an intolerable situation. Who will find it?

Honors Fall to a Librarian

THE recent elevation of His Eminence, Cardinal Achille Ratti, to be the supreme head of the Roman Catholic church as Pope Pius XI is a matter of interest to the world from many different angles, religious, civil and political. To the library craft, it is of

special interest from the fact that for more than 30 years in earlier days he rendered very valuable and highly appreciated service as a reference librarian, both in Milan and at the Vatican library in Rome.

He became librarian of the Ambrosi-

ana library of Milan in 1888 and remained there for 20 years eventually becoming its head. He later took charge of the special manuscript departments of the Vatican library in Rome, becoming Prefect of the library in 1914.

He was not only personally interested in the preservation, arrangement and availability of the documents of the Vatican library, particularly, but he was noted for his courteous interest in those who visited the library with a serious purpose, and was indefatigable in placing at their service his wide knowledge and keen interest, and

sharing with them his almost affectionate regard for the treasures under his charge.

As one recalls the complimentary remarks concerning the spirit of service in the Vatican library thru the courtesy of Prefect Ratti, one has added pleasure in contemplating the honor which crowns his life. Of course, librarians generally cannot be moved by any thought of similar reward crowning their efforts, and yet, one is glad to know that such eventuality crowns the life of at least one person who was a faithful librarian.

The Middle-West to the Fore!

THERE are still some people who feel that the center of the United States, at least from a library standpoint, is somewhere east of Buffalo. And to prove their case these people point to the attendance at A. L. A. conferences on the Atlantic Coast.

The Asbury Park conference in 1916 attracted 1386 persons and the Swampscott meeting last year reached the high-water mark of 1899; while at the conferences in (or near) the Middle-West the attendance has never reached 1000. In answer it may be stated that there has not been a real Middle-Western meeting for many years.

This year's meeting at Detroit offers an opportunity to librarians and trustees west of the Alleghenys to prove that they are, after all, rather numerous. Chicago should send another banner delegation from the large staffs of its several large libraries. Toronto, Buffalo, Cleveland, Toledo, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Louisville, St. Louis, Milwaukee and the Twin Cities will find it easier to attend the meeting

this year than at any time for several years, and the distances are not great from the large cities of the east.

Some persons are prejudiced against a city conference, but the attractions of the magnificent new building at Detroit and of the city itself, the opportunity to visit the University of Michigan with its new library building, and the nearness of Detroit to most attractive vacation land will undoubtedly make the 1922 conference a big one.

Indications are that the days of the conference will, as usual, be overcrowded and that there will be too many meetings to be attended and too many good speeches to be listened to. On the other hand the preliminary announcements indicate that the general sessions are to be devoted in large measure to brief addresses and open discussion rather than to a large number of formal papers.

Then it's the Middle-West to the fore, this year in numbers! There can be no question of quality!

Children's Reading

THE BOOKMAN for February is opened by the editor of that delectable and highly-keyed periodical, Mr John Farrar, with a somewhat querulous diatribe in answer to the never-ending, never-beginning for that matter, question, What do American children read? He tells his readers that he "had long suspected that neither the average librarian nor the average school teacher employed great subtlety in the steering of child intelligence toward better books for each child." So he proceeded, in the age-old way, to ask a lot of boys and girls to tell what "Books I like to read."

The story by J. F. has nothing that will be new to children's librarians and the article is only remarkable for the effort, more apparent than anything in its three page length, to "stir up the animals," without really doing anyone an

injustice. He finds it astonishing that "as far as prose is concerned, the American child reads with creditable intelligence and discretion."

He offers what he calls a "sad list," four names, of favorite poetry—Longfellow, Riley, Whittier, Stevenson. Just what is meant does not appear. (One hopes that the kiddies will not see "Mountains at Sunset,"* at least!)

Mr Farrar thinks "all this seems interesting and valuable." Well, not generally speaking!

However, another department is to be added to the multitudinous, multi-colored, multi-pliced number already presented by *The Bookman*, "and here children who like to read and who enjoy writing," are to have an inning. Then we shall see what we shall see!

—
**The Bookman* for February.

As It Is in England

It has become something of the custom in England for public libraries to advertise for applicants when a vacancy occurs in the staff of the library, particularly when seeking a chief librarian. The salary that is to be paid is also stated. There is a very definite movement among the better class of librarians to bring about more reasonable recognition of the ability of those who are asked to take charge of the libraries than is measured by the salaries offered. A recent editorial in *The Library Assistant* states:

It is evident that the ancient city of Winchester does not attach very much importance to the public library or the holder of the office of librarian, or it would not presume to advertise for one who is ex-

pected to be "experienced," at the paltry salary of £250 per annum. As if this in itself were not bad enough, the advertisement declares that if the person appointed be a woman, it will be only £200.

The Library Assistant also quotes an editorial in the October issue of the *Library World* which states that "the library service appeals very strongly to women, and, on the contrary, very little to men of the more able sort. As in America, the best men are not entering the library profession," and after explaining this as a matter of salary, concludes by saying that "some of us are not made more contented with our lot by this little inference that we are not amongst the 'best men' or those 'of the more able sort.'"

Is Librarianship a Worthy Calling Peoria

The Board of Library Directors of the Public library of Peoria has been giving very serious and thoro study to the library situation in that town, making comparisons of its progress and the needs of the institution with other public libraries in towns of like conditions thruout the country.

One of the members of the Board expresses himself as follows:

"This is the most engaging proposition I have ever investigated. I do not understand why more people are not interested in the great field of library service. Certainly no man can be of more value to his community than he who is the means of developing a good library system for that community."

The Board is unanimous in its decision to obtain a real librarian of high qualifications and is prepared to pay a satisfactory salary to obtain some one to whom they can entrust the great work that they see to be done. It is to be hoped that librarians of ability and ambition will make application and that the excuse offered by St. Paul for going outside the profession for a librarian, that "no first-class librarian was obtainable at the salary," will not apply to the Peoria situation.

St. Paul

Notwithstanding a protest from more than a thousand of citizens of St. Paul, an appeal by library workers of the city, and members of the faculties of various colleges and universities in the vicinity, the appointment of a non-librarian applicant to the position of librarian of the Public library of St. Paul was accomplished. The appointment seems to have been made thru the desire of the commissioner in charge, tho, of course, in an instance of this kind, it is not supposed that one man carries the balance of power, and so others charged with similar responsibility are involved in the appointment.

Webster Wheelock, said to be a "con-

structive man with progressive ideas," but with no previous knowledge or interest in library service, has been appointed librarian. The *Daily News* in commenting on the matter says that while in his particular line of business (insurance) Mr Wheelock is said to be an excellent executive, no efficient business corporation or professional association or other live enterprise would put at its head a man who had not had years of practical experience.

The situation is one that may well be embarrassing. The staff which has been built up with extreme care as to educational and professional knowledge and fitness for public service is now to be directed by one who in no wise shares any of the qualifications required of the staff and who, in order to render professional service at all, must spend a good deal of the time for which he is paid by the city, in learning to do the city's work.

One's gift to the world

A note in *Connecticut Schools* for December, 1921, in speaking of the death of a well beloved teacher, paid a tribute which is most inspiring as well as illuminating: "She had never had a great deal of money nor a great deal of time, but the world is a better place because of her generosity. It wasn't what she gave, but the way she gave it."

The article concludes with an apostrophe to teachers generally which is just as applicable to librarians and their work. Paraphrased it might read as follows:

The library profession is primarily a giving profession. If a librarian has nothing to give or does not know how to give it, he is not really a librarian at all. He may be a storehouse of valuable information or a theorist of parts, but he is not a teacher. If he cannot bridge the space between the public and himself, he cannot help.

The way in which he bridges this space is the measure of his success in his profession. One sees, from time to time, librarians with sour faces and unyielding demeanor. These are the unwilling givers; the misers of the profession. How does the successful librarian give? Willingly; dynamically; as if he loved it. He not only gives; he gives magnificently.

A. L. A. Meeting, 1922

Plans for the Detroit conference of the American Library Association, June 26-July 1, are well under way.

The first general session will be held on Monday evening, June 26. It is expected that there will be greetings from Mayor James Couzens and Honorable John C. Lodge, president of the Common Council. President M. L. Burton of the University of Michigan has consented to make an address and there will be the presidential address by Azariah S. Root. This program will be followed by a reception.

The second general session will be held on Tuesday morning and the subject will be *A. L. A. Publications*, with talks on the policy of the A. L. A. in the field of publications, suggestions as to publications which are needed and general discussion as to the value of A. L. A. publications from the standpoint of librarians in all sorts of libraries.

The third general session will be devoted to a discussion of recruiting for library service. It is expected that brief addresses will be made by persons representing all kinds of library work and that there will be a general discussion of the needs in general and special library work and of the methods by which persons of ability may be induced to enter the profession.

The fourth general session, Friday morning, has not yet been worked out in detail.

The fifth and last general session will be devoted to the individual's responsibility to his profession with one or two brief addresses and many short talks.

A. L. A. Council meetings are tentatively planned for Monday afternoon, June 26, and Wednesday evening, June 28, and it is expected that both of these meetings will be devoted to discussions of, and possible action on, the recommendations of important A. L. A. committee reports.

From one to four meetings each are

being planned by the following associations, sections and groups:

- American association of law libraries
- National association of state libraries
- League of library commissions
- Special Libraries association
- Bibliographical society of America
- Michigan State library association
- Association of American library schools
- Library workers association
- College and reference section
- Trustees section
- Catalog section
- Children's Librarians section
- Professional Training section
- Agricultural Libraries section
- School Libraries section
- Lending section
- Public Documents round-table
- Round-Table on work with foreign born
- Small Libraries round-table
- Training Class instructors
- Librarians of religion and theology.

Thursday, June 28, is a day of recreation. A visit to Ann Arbor has been planned. It is expected that a special train will leave Detroit for Ann Arbor in the morning. A complimentary luncheon will be served to all the guests at the University Union on the campus. There will be brief after-luncheon talks by University people and two hours will be spent in visiting the University library and campus. The special train is scheduled to leave Ann Arbor about 4:30. Dinner meetings of library schools and other groups will be held in Detroit on Thursday evening. A few other meetings will also be held on Thursday evening.

A boat ride up the Detroit river to Lake St. Clair is planned for Friday evening. A large ferry boat capable of accommodating 2000 persons will be provided and it is expected that the local and entertainment committees will provide a variety of entertainment on that occasion, including perhaps one-act plays, dancing and music.

The post-conference trip has not yet been arranged for, but the Travel committee promises something unusually interesting.

Headquarters will be at the Hotel Statler where accommodations for approximately 800 members will be avail-

able. Other hotels within easy walking distance are: Wolverine, Tuller, Charlevoix, Addison, Cadillac, Shelby, Norton, Lenox and Madison. Single rooms in the headquarters hotel, all with bath, range from \$3 up. Double rooms, \$5 up. In the other hotels the prices range from \$2 up. Reservations should be made at once, as the hotels in Detroit are likely to be crowded at the time of the conference.

It is too early yet to make definite announcements about railroad rates, but the Travel committee hopes to be able to offer something less than the regular fare.

C. H. MILAM.

Nominating Committee's Report

The new A. L. A. constitution provides that at least three sets of names shall be presented by the nominating committee for officers of the A. L. A. From these, the membership is to make a selection for the officers for the ensuing year. The A. L. A. *Bulletin*, January, 1922, presents the following:

The undersigned Committee on nominations, American Library Association, begs leave to report unanimously the following nominations for officers for the ensuing year:

President

Belden, C. F. D.
Jennings, Judson T.
Keogh, Andrew.

First vice-president

Utley, George B.
Rathbone, Josephine A.
Strohm, Adam.

Second vice-president

Rose, Grace.
Moore, Annie C.
Wyer, Malcolm G.

Treasurer

Tweedell, Edward D.
Krause, Louise B.
Koch, Theodore W.

Executive Board

Bishop, W. W.
Hadley, Chalmers.
Hopper, Franklin F.
Hyde, Jr., Dorsey W.
Wyer, J. I.
Hitchler, Theresa.
Marvin, Cornelia.
Donnelly, June R.
Watson, William R.

Council

Dudgeon, Matthew S.
Gerould, James T.
Guerrier, Edith.
Mulheron, Anne M.
Barr, Charles J.
Brown, Charles H.
Browning, Earl W.
Compton, C. H.
Greene, Charles S.
Hamilton, W. J.
Hazeltime, Alice I.
Hirshberg, Herbert S.
Doren, Electra C.
Lester, Clarence B.
Lowe, John A.
Lydenberg, H. M.
McCollough, Ethel F.
MacDonald, Anna A.
Rush, Charles E.
Small, A. J.
Thompson, C. Seymour.
Webster, Caroline.
Wood, Harriet A.
Drake, Jeannette M.
Clark, George T.
Leupp, Harold L.
Reece, Ernest J.
Vitz, C. P. P.
Wilson, Martha.
Johnston, Esther.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, Chairman
EDNA M. SANDERSON
MILTON J. FERGUSON
LINDA A. EASTMAN
EDWARD F. STEVENS

Libraries as Viewed by U. S. Commissioners of Education

At the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Public library of Grand Rapids, Michigan, U. S. Commissioner of Education, Dr J. J. Tigert, spoke on "The function of the public library in a democracy." He traced the attitude of the various commissioners toward the development of library work and closed by expressing his own high opinion in regard to it.

He recalled the fact that Henry Barnard, the first U. S. Commissioner of Education, thought the public library service was just as fundamental to the success of representative government as the system of public schools. The second commissioner, Gen John Eaton of Indiana, was also a believer in the public library and his efforts in behalf of libraries reflected credit on what

they accomplished both locally and nationally. Dr W. T. Harris, like Dr Barnard, was one of the real pillars of library development in the early days and until his death, near the close of the nineteenth century, could be counted on for any assistance that his office, his staff or his personal effort could furnish. Dr Harris used his influence for the organization of the library department in the N. E. A. at Buffalo in 1896. His successor, Dr E. E. Brown was interested in libraries, having said at one time, "At 20 libraries, east and west, I have received numberless courtesies, which have aroused in me the highest admiration for the new American librarian—both type and individual." Dr P. P. Claxton, Dr Tigert's immediate predecessor was particularly interested in the development of libraries for rural communities, and this movement owes its first great impulse to the support and advocacy of Dr Claxton.

Dr Tigert then proceeded to express his own idea of the function of the public library in a democracy. He prophesied that the libraries of the future would have a far greater part in the educational program of the country than they have had in the past. Dr Tigert was very explicit in his statement that the public library as an institution was a provision for continued education in the democracy after the formal school age had passed. He closed by saying that "the librarian's task is perplexing, difficult and baffling, but its right performance means developing citizenship, shaping character and forming habits."

"When one considers education in its broad and proper connotation, in its effort to produce intelligent right-minded and right-acting citizens, he cannot fail to see that the library is as truly educational as the school and to recognize in the library which is free and public, an agency which aids, supplements, and extends the work of the public schools."

An Important Movement

A protest against unfair discrimination in that they are the only class of employees remunerated by the city of New York to whom pension privileges are not extended, was made at a recent meeting of the librarians of Queens Borough public library. It was noted that while librarians are among the poorest paid of city employees, they have not been pensioned, altho practically all city and state employees are enjoying such benefits.

Great interest was shown in the discussion and a resolution was passed to the effect that "the librarians petition all members of the legislature from New York city, also civic associations, community councils and citizens who believe in the spirit of fairness, to support any just measure during the present session of the legislature which will give librarians the same privilege in regard to old age pensions as are enjoyed by all other classes of employees who receive their compensation from the city."

* * * * *

A protest is being made among the employes of the Public library of the District of Columbia over the salaries. It is contended that after years of preparation for their work and years of experience they are unable to live on the salaries they are paid. They maintain that nearly 50 per cent of the library's employes have persons dependent or partially dependent upon them and that 68 per cent are forced to do extra work in order to make ends meet. Only 11 per cent have provided for emergencies, such as doctor bills, dental work, etc. Such as have had illness are forced to carry a debt which they are unable to meet out of their salaries; 38 per cent are in actual debt.

The plea is therefore made by the employes for the passage of the reclassification bill designed to provide fair salaries. This legislation has been promised by Congress for several years but still "hangs fire." In a letter send-

ing this statement the suggestion is made that librarians outside of Washington City might help in creating a better spirit toward the library employes by interesting the various members of Congress from their districts in the plight of the Washington librarians. The pending district appropriation bill for the fiscal year makes no provision to relieve the salary situation.

The Library Problem*

There will always remain, however, the almost insoluble problem presented by the increasing flood of printed books and periodicals. Should production go on at the present rate it seems quite clear that in a hundred years' time it will be quite impossible for Columbia University to provide either the money or the space to maintain a library that shall contain everything for which demand is made. Something, perhaps much, could be accomplished if the chief universities and public libraries would join together in a plan for co-operation that would assign to but one library of the co-operation group the task of buying rare, costly or unusual books in a given field. But even were this done, a problem of no small magnitude would remain to be solved. Those who organize and conduct the work of research wish to have everything that is printed in a given field of inquiry pass under their own eyes or those of their students. The cost of this, already great, will one day become colossal, particularly when it is remembered that much of this matter is so inconsequent that it is never referred to a second time. Modern man has an almost superstitious reverence for the printed page, which causes him to give an amount of attention to the printed word that it would not occur to him to give were the same word only spoken. The piling up of great collections of useless books goes on, and yet no one is apparently wise enough to say which of these may safely be discarded as likely never to be called for again. The question of library growth and library administration has its practical aspects, which must sooner or later be faced, no matter how great their difficulties.

The *Open Shelf* for January, 1922, opens with a dissertation on "columns" that is most entertaining. An inclosure that is valuable for many purposes is a list, "100 good novels."

*From the annual report (1921), of the president of Columbia university, Nicholas Murray Butler.

Examples of Changed Titles

Supplied by catalog department, Brooklyn public library.

Bailey, Edgar Henry Summerfield. Source, chemistry and use of food products. Phil P. Blakiston's son & co. c1914.

Ed. 2 rev. pub. under title Food products, their source, chemistry and use. c1921.

Beard, Daniel Carter. American boys' book of wild animals. Phil. Lippincott, 1921. c07-21.

Formerly pub. in 1907 and 1910 by Moffat, Yard & co. under the title of Animal book and campfire stories.

Brownlee, Raymond Bedell, and others. Elementary principles of chemistry. Bost. Ginn. c1921.

Previous editions have title First principles of chemistry.

Freeman, Frederick. Yaradee; a plea for Africa. Phil. Whetham, 1836.

Same book pub. under titles A Plea for Africa; and, Africa's redemption.

Gibson, Wilfred Wilson. Hill-tracks. N.Y. Macmillan co. 1918.

English edition has title Whin.

Grantham, Frederick William. Book of life and death. Lond. Lane, 1921.

Rev. & enl. edition of his Life, ideals and death, pub. in 1913.

Hamsun, Knut. Mothwise. Lond. Gylden-dal, 1921.

Same book trans. under title Dreamers. N.Y. Knopf, 1921.

Hildreth, Richard. Memoirs of Archy Moore, (pseud.) Ed. 2. 2v. in 1, 123-115p. D. Bost. Munroe, 1839c37.

Different editions of this work pub. under titles: Archy Moore, the white slave; The Slave or, Memoirs of Archy Moore; The White slave, another picture of slave life in America; The White slave, or, Memoirs of a fugitive.

Hodgman, Rev. Stephen Alexander. Great republic judged, but not destroyed. N.Y. Craighead, printer, 1865.

First published anonymously, N.Y. 1864, under title The Nation's sin and punishment.

King, Ulysses Grant. Mental evolution. Bost. Roxburgh pub. co. c1921.

Same book pub. under title The Higher evolution.

Mabie, Hamilton Wright, ed. After school library. Phil. After school club, c1909.

Also pub. New York, 1909, under title Young folks' treasury.

Markham, Violet R. Woman's watch on the Rhine. Lond.Hodder,1921.

Same book pub. under title Watching on the Rhine. N.Y.Doran,c1921.

McKinley, Albert Edward, Coulomb, C. A. and Gerson, A. J. School history of the great war. N.Y.Amer.bk.co.c1918.

A rev. edition pub. later under title World war, a school history of the great war. N.Y.Amer.bk.co.c1918-19.

Monckton, Charles Arthur Whitmore. Some experiences of a New Guinea resident magistrate. Lond.Lane,1921.

Same book pub. under title Taming New Guinea; some experiences of a New Guinea resident magistrate.

Outwater, H. G. Designs for American homes; designs by C. M. Noble and drawings by H. R. Shurtleff. N.Y.Dodd,1921 c19-21.

Enlarged edition of Architectural corporation, New York. Designs for American homes, v.1.

Paine, Albert Bigelow. Ship-dwellers; a story of a happy cruise. N.Y.Harper,1910.

Pub. later under title The Lure of the Mediterranean; the ship dwellers, a story of a happy cruise.

Stevenson, Robert Louis Balfour. David Balfour.

Same book pub. under title Catriona. Sequel to Kidnapped.

Streeter, Rev. Burnett Hillman and Apasamy, A. J. (The) Sadhu. Lond.Macmillan,1921.

Same book pub. under title The Message of Sadhu Sundar Singh.

Ward, Mrs. Mary Augusta (Arnold). Testing of Diana Mallory. N.Y.Harper,1908.

Same book published under title Diana Mallory. Lond.Smith,1908.

Wells, Horace Lemuel. Chemical calculation tables, for laboratory use. Ed.2 rev. 1920c03-19.

Revision and modification of my "Tables for chemical calculations." Pref.

We get no good

By being ungenerous, even to a book

And calculating profits—so much help

By so much reading. It is rather when

We gloriously forget ourselves and plunge

Soul-forward, headlong into a book's profound

Impassion for its beauty and salt of truth

'Tis then we get the right good from a book.—Browning.

What Figures Show

Questions frequently asked by city officials when the annual report and budget requests are made are: What part of the population are library card holders?—What is the relation between the total population and the total circulation?—What proportion of the total circulation is adult fiction?—How do these statistics compare with other cities in the same class?

Such questions are very difficult to answer with absolute correctness because of the difference in library rules for counting statistics. This is especially true in the percentage of card holders because of the difference in periods of registration. Obviously a library which registers on a three-year period has more active cards than one which has a five-year period.

Notwithstanding these variations an approximate estimate of how the library ranks with others may be made from statistics compiled according to the A. L. A. form.

The librarian of the Public library of Evanston, Illinois, Miss Ida F. Wright, in response to a request of the mayor, has compiled statistics of 19 cities in various parts of the country having a population from 30,000 to 55,000 inhabitants.

Some library statistics

	Percentage of card holders to population	Home use of books per inhabitant	Proportion adult fiction to total circulation
Bloomington, Ill.....	37.3	5.9	48.7
Cedar Rapids, Iowa....	31.9	5.8	34.3
Council Bluffs, Iowa..	28.0	5.9	23.0
Decatur, Ill.....	24.6	4.7	52.3
Des Moines, Iowa.....	22.6	2.8	33.3
Evanston, Ill.....	42.0	6.2	43.3
Galesburg, Ill.....	29.0	5.2	48.0
Green Bay, Wis.....	18.5	2.8	47.1
Jackson, Mich.....	28.0	4.2	53.0
Kalamazoo, Mich.....	20.5	4.3	37.0
Malden, Mass.....	26.5	6.0	41.0
New Rochelle, N. Y.....	32.8	4.1	43.9
Newton, Mass.....	36.0	7.2	50.0
Oak Park, Ill.....	36.0	5.9	46.5
Poughkeepsie, N. Y....	13.9	4.0	35.1
Quincy, Mass.....	26.3	6.0	38.3
Racine, Wis.....	25.5	4.9	36.1
Superior, Wis.....	32.3	5.4	39.6
Waltham, Mass.....	23.5	5.0	52.0

A comparison of the statistics shows that the average number of books read per inhabitant last year was 4.9. Evanston's reading of public library books makes each man, woman and child responsible for 6.8 books read during 1921.

In looking over library reports oftentimes a little doubt arises as to just the basis of calculation on which results are obtained, for instance the relation between the population of the city, the number of card-holders and the number of books issued from the library. When a city has a population of less than 30,000 and a circulation of over 350,000 books, one wishes that the number of card-holders had been included in the report.

A Notable Gift

The city of Minneapolis has enjoyed for many years the benefit of a wonderful art collection thru the kindness of one of its citizens, Mr T. B. Walker.

Mr Walker has a marvelous art collection and from time to time additions have been made to the Public library collection until all available space has been occupied. About two years ago, Mr Walker offered to the city his entire art collection valued at \$10,000,000, with the offer, also, to deed to the city certain property which he owned if the city would finance the erection of a new building for the extension of the library and to house the art collection. The proposed building would cost about \$1,000,000.

The first issue of bonds for \$250,000 towards the purpose, was authorized two years ago, with the second issue to follow at this time. One of the aldermen of the present council has seen fit to oppose the sale of the second bond issue and at present Minneapolis faces the danger of losing one of the most valuable, as well as interesting, art collections in this country.

The educational value of such a gift is inspiring and the citizens of Minneapolis are determined it shall not be lost.

Certification of Librarians

Report of the Committee on certification to the Missouri library association.

"Certification" and its complement "Standardization" are words that have long since become familiar. Such combinations as "certified milk," "certified public accountants," and "standardized service" are now such a factor in our every-day speech as not to cause us to pause over their meaning. Individualists may object that such an intangible but highly important quality as personality can not be measured, standardized or certified and that it is futile to set up rules or regulations which may serve to debar those possessing a most desirable talent from a profession that is seeking that very quality in its practitioners. However, it is taken for granted by the committee that any regulation looking toward a certification law would have for its chief purpose the recognition of the competent and the elimination of and protection from the unfit. As there are great differences in libraries and the requirements for service in the same, provision must be made for the corresponding classes of services and grades of ability.

A short review of the movement for the certification of librarians may be of interest. The first serious mention of the subject was made in a paper read before the League of Library Commissions in 1906. Soon after, the British association (L. A. U. K.) adopted its system of "Registration," examinations being the chief criterion to an applicant's ability. This agitation soon led to the introduction of bills before our state legislatures, Ohio in 1908 being the first to consider the adoption of such a law followed by California with its county library system supervised by the State library. Other states* in establishing county libraries have followed this pioneer state in thus insuring themselves against poor service.

*See PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 27:95-98.

For several years the American Library Association has had a committee considering this subject and its report, submitting at the Swampscott conference in 1921, is what may be termed the most thoro treatment of the subject. It outlines four distinct grades of service, specifying in each case the education and experience required. A National certification board is suggested for the administration of a voluntary plan, nation-wide in scope, reasonable in standards, and one that would inspire universal confidence and respect.

The Wisconsin law seems to be the most desirable as a model for Missouri because it does away with the administrative problem of renewal of certificates given for a stated term. It specifies only as to minimum qualifications for the holders of certificates of the various grades.

While it is always enlightening to study the practices of our neighbors we must realize the peculiar situation in our own state and work out a system corresponding to its needs. The committee would suggest the establishment of four grades of public libraries, arranged by population, as follows:

1. Cities of 20,000 and over.
2. Cities of 10,000 to 20,000.
3. Cities of 5000 to 10,000.
4. Cities of 2500 to 5000.

(Libraries in cities of less than 2500 inhabitants would be exempt from requirements of the law. In New York, the minimum is set at 3000; in Wisconsin, at 2000.)

We would suggest the following grades of certificates:

- I Grade
Education: 3 yrs. college—1 yr. library school.
Experience: 5 yrs., with provision of substitution of 1 yr. of college, or of library school, for a year of experience, minimum of experience in any case to be not less than 3 yrs.
- II Grade
Education: 2 yrs. college—1 yr. library school.
Experience: 3 yrs.

III Grade

Education: High school and approved summer library school course of 6 weeks.

Experience: 2 yrs.

IV Grade

Education: High school.

Experience: 6 mos. in approved library and under librarian of at least III Grade certificate.

With the administration of the law placed under a board constituted like the one in Wisconsin the alternative there prevailing should be adopted, i. e. the issuance of a certificate of any grade to an applicant which it deems possessed of the attainments substantially the equivalent of those prescribed for that grade. In no case should the law be retroactive, as it should set a date about two years in the future after which time all applicants for work in public libraries of cities of over 2500 inhabitants must be possessors of certificates of a grade corresponding to the position desired. (It is understood that the requirements are for the position of chief librarian, first assistants being supposed to fill the requirements of the grade below in each case, i. e. a person possessing a II Grade certificate has the proper certificate for librarianship in a Missouri city of the second class and a first assistantship in a city of the first class.)

The details of a bill to be submitted to the legislature should be well considered. As the next session of the General Assembly is not to be held until 1923, your committee submits the above survey with the recommendation that a committee be appointed for the purpose of making a more complete study of the matter, such committee to report to our 1922 conference with the text of a bill to submit to the legislature.

JAMES A. McMILLEN,
Chairman.

The best leader is the one who gets results by enthusing and stimulating those under his direction so that they work for him or for the ideal which he is able to put into their minds.

The Meeting of B. S. A. in Chicago

The Bibliographical Society of America met with other organizations at the Mid-winter meeting in Chicago, December 30, with President W. W. Bishop in the chair. Letters of greeting were read from George Watson Cole, librarian of the Huntington library and from George S. Goddard, state librarian of Connecticut. Mr Bishop announced that the next volume of papers and proceedings would be issued shortly and another meeting of the society in conjunction with the A. L. A. would probably be held at Detroit or Ann Arbor.

The first paper was by Prof F. I. Carpenter, trustee of the Newberry library, Chicago, on Photographic reproduction of rare books. Mr Carpenter pointed out the value of reproduction in increasing the number of rare books wanted by libraries. Mr Carpenter's paper was largely based on the list of proposed reproductions sent out by the Newberry library. He discussed processes and cost, including the photostat, the Manul and collotype. He stressed the value of coöperation and a central bureau on account of cost and space, and the necessity for a central depository for the negatives. If there was a central depository, it should be the Library of Congress which would compile a list of its negatives for inquirers. Mr Carpenter's final point was that the collotype reproductions seem to be the best if they can be afforded.

The discussion was animated and valuable. Mr Bishop said that "the photostat was an admirable copying machine but a poor publishing instrument." Dr Andrews described the Manul process which he said was not profitable unless about 100 copies were secured. He referred to the camera-graph as having the advantage of printing on both sides of the sheet and reducing the cost but having the disadvantage of not being clearly defined. Mr Hanson said that a reproduction made by the University of Chicago was

secured at nearly half the cost by taking six copies. Dr Richardson spoke of the need of copies of manuscripts for lending purposes. Mr Gerould suggested that instead of burdening the Library of Congress, if cards could be printed for the central depository, enough libraries might subscribe for the series. Then the Library of Congress need only print the card. He protested against the reproduction of a large number of copies of a rare book, saying that one or two ought to be enough. After considerable discussion it was stated that the Library of Congress could print immediately if 35 subscriptions could be secured and these cards could then be put in the union catalog. The society voted to underwrite the 35 subscriptions.

A summary of a paper by Prof W. A. Oldfather on the subject of Avianus was presented in the hope that additional material might be brought to the attention of Prof Oldfather who is preparing a study of this subject.

Dr Pierce Butler of the Newberry library gave an interesting address on the John M. Wing Foundation in this library. He said that the bequest was made for the purpose of buying books to "illustrate and describe the origin and development of printing and allied subjects." It is on such a basis as will make the Wing collection eventually surpass the other three great typographical collections in the world, the collection at Leipzig, at St. Bride's, London and at the Typographical library in Jersey City. The Wing collection also draws on the collections of the Newberry library, especially the Probasco and Bonaparte collections.

Among other subjects which are being taken care of are Incunabula, of which the Newberry now has 410 specimens, Aldines, Kelmscotts and numerous books on the history of printing and the theory of letter design. Other rarities are specimens of block printing, an Apocalypse of 1455 and an *Italiana Biblia Pauperum*. The collection has one Caxton and a fair

number of modern presses. It is frequently visited by practical printers.

The meeting closed with an address by J. Christian Bay of the John Crerar library on book rarities of Chicago. Mr Bay had the books he spoke of on the table before him and handled them appreciatively as he described them. He narrowed the issues of various books down to 100 and then to 20 copies, and closed with the rarest he knew of, an edition of Kipling's *Brushwood Boy*, in 1903, consisting of one copy on vellum. With great satisfaction, he showed the second copy of this book, intimating only, how he came to possess it.

Acquaintance Meeting of the District of Columbia Library Association

One hundred and sixteen Washington librarians gathered together around the cozy stone fireplace of the tea house of the Grace Dodge Hostel on Friday evening, January 20, with the avowed object of making friends and discussing ways and means of developing better library coöperation in Washington. The affair was coincident with the annual meeting of the District of Columbia library association, at which new officers for 1922 were elected as follows:

President, Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., chief, National Civics Bureau, Chamber of Commerce of the United States; vice-president, Anne G. Cross, librarian of the Department of Commerce; secretary, Mary F. Carpenter, Department of Agriculture library; treasurer, Nelson W. McCombs, librarian of the Federal Reserve Board.

In the absence of Dr Herbert Putnam, president, Vice-president George F. Bowerman opened the meeting. After a short business meeting Mr Bowerman presented an interesting report on the status of reclassification legislation. Mr Bowerman pointed out that there is need for the working out of credits equivalent to university training and it was decided to appoint

a special committee to study this problem. A resolution was unanimously adopted expressing the profound regret of all Washington librarians at the death of Miss Eunice R. Oberly and recording their appreciation of substantial service which she rendered to her profession.

Upon a motion by H. H. B. Meyer, chief bibliographer of the Library of Congress, it was voted that the District of Columbia library association re-affiliate with the A. L. A. Mr Meyer discussed at some length the need for supporting the national body and urged that all Washington librarians become members.

The formal session terminated with a few words from Mr Hyde who emphasized the need for personal acquaintance as a basis for effective library coöperation.

A light supper was served to the members immediately after the business session. Chairs were moved back against the walls and the members of a specially appointed "acquaintance committee," wearing distinguishing badges, circulated around the hall making introductions. The committee of which Miss Helen C. Silliman of the Government printing office was chairman, performed most effectively and in a very short space of time it was very evident that Washington librarians were completely "acquainted."

The plans for the meeting were developed, at the request of Dr Herbert Putnam, by a special committee consisting of Claribel R. Barnett, librarian of the Department of Agriculture, Adelaide R. Hasse, editor of *Special Libraries*, Mary G. Lacy, librarian of the Bureau of Markets, Nelson W. McCombs, librarian of the Federal Reserve Board, Thomas P. Ayer, librarian of the Federal Trade Commission, and Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr.

The force of ambition should be turned inward. Instead of trying to surpass other men, we should try every morning to surpass the man we were yesterday.

Illinois Library Association

A round of district library meetings was held in February. The first was held in the Chicago public library on Friday, February 3, with Miss Zana K. Miller of the Library Bureau occupying the chair. The attendance at the meeting was about 100, made up almost entirely of librarians and members of staffs from the suburban libraries, very few of the Chicago craft being present.

The ever-present subject of the mending and repair of books was discussed by Maude Blake of the West North Avenue branch library, Chicago. She touched only the simplest points which may be easily taught to apprentices, showing samples of the work, such as treatment of torn text, torn margins, loose leaves, loose joints in new books, sewing picture books and recasing.

In speaking of binding periodicals, Miss Miller advised that librarians consider very carefully what magazines should be bound and that only those which were really serviceable as reference material be kept permanently. She named a few of the larger sized magazines, as the *Ladies' Home Journal* and *Woman's Home Companion*, which she thought smaller libraries should not bind at all, but should keep them merely for the time when they could be clipped for fugitive material that might be useful in reference work. To preserve current numbers of unbound magazines, she advocated the use of pamphlet boxes which take up little space on the shelves and keep the numbers together. Miss Miller expressed the opinion that sometimes magazines that formerly were of reference value and worthy of binding had deteriorated until their value for that purpose was at present very small. A sample of the "home brew" binding sent by Mr F. K. W. Drury of Brown University library attracted favorable comment.

The second topic was a discussion of children's books by Miss Edith C.

Moon who does the library work with the children in Evanston, under the authority of both the school and the library. Miss Moon called attention to the close relation children's work should have with their school work and this should be without stressing it as school work. She traced the work from the primary grades up to the high school; warned against ordinary books with high sounding names, and made a plea for the best literature for the primary grades, choosing folk tales, legends and Greek and Roman myths as a preparation that would lead to a delight in these things when they came to form a part of the curriculum later. She strongly urged librarians to read carefully the books they gave to children and thought this of much more importance than giving so much time to books for older persons. Attention was called to the fact that history and geography are, at present, in the making and that, with tactful and intelligent leading, children may become interested in the development of the world and its civilization. She stressed the value in this of biography, particularly of men who have served their day and generation in other lines than military achievement. Where it was necessary at all to talk of wars, she urged stressing the foremost characters which would lead to the study of biography and a general understanding of world activities.

Miss Moon was listened to with much interest and created a most favorable impression, on this, her first appearance among Western librarians.

Carl H. Milam, secretary of the A. L. A., explained the resolution recently passed at the meeting of the Council as to forward-looking ideals and the furnishing of one dollar per capita appropriation by communities. Mr Milam's plea was on the ground that the library is an educational institution of value to every interest in the community and worthy of the best support that can be given it.

Miss Bertha Carter, librarian of the Oak Park high school, told of the plan which is being used in Oak Park for arousing interest in library support.

"The \$1 per capita appropriation" has been put on the list of questions for debate with the intention of emphasizing the belief held by many that the public library is entitled to the same degree of support as the public schools, on the part of the taxpayers. It has already created interest among the adults, particularly the parents of those students who are engaged in the debate. The opponent of taxation is furnishing plenty of material to the negative side and this puts the affirmative on its metal. Library literature is being examined as it has not been before in the history of the library, in the search for support of the affirmative side of the question.

The discussion which followed of the manner of support of libraries was quite animated. An account was given of the efforts of the Woman's club of La Grange to help support the Public library by having sales of various kinds to raise funds for the library, not for necessities, but for such things as making a more attractive entrance, putting in electric lights, etc. There were those present who thought that this was not compatible with the dignity of the library, and tended to lessen the appreciation of the library by the public as a tax supported educational institution.

Another library reported the collection of magazines from those who were thru with them and these were cut for bulletins, extra reading material, etc., and helped out the meagre supply of the library.

The question of what the library should do for the schools brought out a number of opinions. Waukegan was firmly of the opinion that it was not wise to put strictly foreign books in a branch in a foreign district. The residents there were usually separated not only by language, race and religion, but by social distinction, and a library

set down in their locality with books of their own kind emphasizes the line of demarkation between them. They found that it was much more satisfactory to have a main library where Americans and foreigners could mingle on the common ground of the tax supported library. Mr Milam thought that librarians were not figuring enough in proving to the public that the library is not primarily a place for women's clubs and children, and that more should be done to make the library recognized as an institution that has something for everyone in the community.

Dr Theodore Wesley Koch talked on "Keeping in touch with the profession," advocating as the best means, membership in the I. L. A. and the A. L. A. In his discussion, Dr Koch announced that the 1922 meeting of the I. L. A. would be held at the Chicago Beach hotel, Chicago, and that the A. L. A. meeting would be held in Detroit. He urged all Illinois librarians to make a special effort to be present at both meetings.

The afternoon session opened with a talk by Mary B. Day, librarian of the National Safety Council of Chicago on "The information file and its importance in reference work." She described the method of caring for pamphlets and clippings which constitute the larger part of the material in her library. She suggested that such a file may be started in a smaller library in one pamphlet box, that the vertical file is not essential for a beginning altho a desirable method of caring for this type of material.

An hour spent in five minute reviews of new books brought out some very helpful suggestions. Carl B. Roden of the Chicago public library, speaking on the character of the high class modern novel, presented some interesting conclusions recently arrived at in his library in regard to "sifting the taste of the public." Mr Roden contended that it is useless for libraries to adhere to the policies of

a by-gone generation, and restrict the use of certain questionable books when similar reading can be had in almost any magazine. It is not a matter, Mr Roden said, of whether or not the library wants to supply its patrons with such books, but a question as to its right to deprive adults of what they demand in the way of modern fiction. While he deplored the tendency among even conservative, high class writers to cater to the popular demand for sordid themes in fiction, Mr Roden felt the public library should meet practically all demands, inasmuch as many questionable books are the work of reputable authors and put out by reputable publishers.

In the discussion which followed Mr Roden's talk, it was suggested that the limitation of book funds would solve this problem in smaller libraries.

About 35 librarians and trustees attended the district meeting of the I. L. A. at Freeport on February 6.

Miss Ruth Hughes, librarian of the Public library of Freeport, was in charge of the program. The first topic introduced was "The new A. L. A. one dollar per capita appropriation recommendation." While none of the libraries in the state come up to the ideal set by the A. L. A., the Rockford public library in this district is probably the nearest the mark, as it has a per capita allowance of 67 cents.

"New publicity plans" were reported by several librarians. "Read a book a week" was one library slogan recommended for publicity emphasis. A definite day each week for display of new books before issue was considered a desirable means of letting readers see the books before they were put into circulation. It was suggested that this was worth doing even if only two or three books were added each week in small libraries, as it stimulates more continuous interest on the part of the public. "Keeping in touch with the profession" was introduced by Katherine Krape of the Lena public library, who was followed on the same subject

by Zana K. Miller of the Library Bureau, the I. L. A. representative to this district. She suggested that some of the ways to "keep in touch" were to attend summer library courses; read library periodicals and literature regularly; to get acquainted with other libraries and librarians; to attend as many district, state, and national meetings as possible, and to join the state association and the A. L. A., both for personal benefit as well as for the good of the whole body of librarians.

A statement was read which had been prepared by Martha Wilson, chairman of the I. L. A. Educational committee in regard to the place of the school libraries in the forthcoming educational survey. The following resolution was adopted: Resolved that the plan of the Educational committee of the I. L. A. to bring before the Educational commission the importance of making definite recommendations concerning the school libraries in the educational program of the state, be approved and that we give our individual support to the success of this plan in order to place the school libraries in their proper place in the educational program of the state.

Jane P. Hubbell of the Rockford public library talked on "Helpful children's book lists," such as the A. L. A. book list, those published in the *Wisconsin Library Bulletin*, and in the monthly bulletin of the Pittsburgh public library. The Standard Bimonthly catalog was also mentioned as another aid in the selection of new books.

The afternoon session was devoted to topics of special interest to the trustees present, such as the need for amending the Illinois state law; what legitimate Sunday service may be expected of a public library; the relation of the trustee to the staff and the duties of each. One trustee expressed the wish that younger business men be appointed to fill vacancies on library boards.

The increasing loss of books by theft was a subject for serious discussion.

An hour was spent in informal comments on books which those present had read, the last year and found of interest in their respective communities.

During the discussion of the topic "Mending and repair of books," Margaret E. Davenport, librarian of the Freeport high school library was asked to try to discover among her students some young person who could be trained as an itinerant mender for the libraries of the Freeport district. It was thought that such a person could save money for the libraries and also make a good living in the Freeport district alone, during the summer months. A sample volume of "home brew" periodical binding from Brown University, was exhibited and many librarians thought an itinerant mender could also learn to do this very neat and inexpensive periodical binding.

A joint Iowa-Illinois district meeting was held in the Davenport public library, February 16.

The president of the Davenport public library board, Mr J. Clark Hall, welcomed the visitors. He expressed the hope that the time would soon come when city councils would grant more money for library purposes than they were asked for by library boards, and that more and more might intelligent and enlightened young women be attracted to library work as a calling. Miss Robinson in responding thought that already many more college girls were planning to take up library work and that they were shaping their college courses to fit themselves as librarians.

The speaker who had been assigned to the topic, "Mending and binding," not being present, Zana K. Miller, librarian of the Library Bureau, was asked to talk on this subject. She thought that only simple and easy mending should be undertaken by the amateur mender and that a district itinerant mender could, no doubt, be trained, as suggested at the Freeport meeting, to do such work. This person would be able to keep up the mending in all the libraries of the district and

make a good living out of it, as well as save money for the libraries. The Brown University sample volume of "home brew" periodical binding was passed around so that all could examine it. The general sentiment was in favor of this economical method. It was stated by several that the quality of materials now used in publishers' bindings made reinforcement of new books at an additional cost of less value than formerly.

The importance of the inventory was introduced by Sophia Grant of Genesee public library who said the size of the library should determine the frequency of the inventory—from three to five years was suggested. The new Iowa law, requiring an annual inventory of both the personal and real property of the library, was said to have caused considerable increased work, but was thought to be worth while on the whole. Several librarians frankly advised the withdrawal of useless books, which were easily discovered at the time of the inventory. The habit of keeping every book which comes to the library regardless of value, was one to be broken, and libraries would not become so crowded for shelf room if more intelligent weeding were practiced. Some one added the encouragement that the first inventory taken is always the hardest.

Means suggested whereby the reading of a community might be improved were: systematic reading lists, such as those issued by the Illinois Library Extension division; the new A. L. A. lists; book reviewing, and reading aloud in the library at stated times, and current events clubs conducted by the librarian or other leaders. Gertrude C. Haley reported that at Fort Dodge, 20 minute talks on biography were given in the parochial schools on Friday mornings and that the children had responded later by going to the library for books about the persons discussed. It was also said that the new method of teaching history was creating a taste for biography; and a

general awakening in biography was due to the better books of this type which have lately appeared.

Mary A. Egan of the Clinton public library talked on the care and use of pamphlets. She said that every mail brought them and that good use could be made of them. She recommended the alphabetical subject arrangement of all pamphlets and clippings in a vertical file.

Elizabeth Lilly, children's librarian of the Burlington public library, took up, by title, a list of new children's books and told why she liked each. The lists were distributed so that librarians had them for future use.

Miss Robinson then talked on the Iowa slogan, "A book for every man, woman and child in Iowa," thru the means of the county library. She said that altho Iowa has a law, as yet it has no real county system. She stated that the federation of Women's clubs had indorsed the idea and it is hoped that the library trustees will get behind the movement so that Iowa may catch up in the county library procession.

C. V. Findlay, "the father of two boys, a school man and a member of the board of trustees of the Fort Dodge public library," said that his boys had gotten more out of their general reading than anything else, and he believes that "the time has come to spread the gospel of reading for all—a good book for every boy and girl."

Library budget making was explained by Miss Robinson in a black-board talk. She showed the percentage which should be allowed for the various items of library expense.

At the afternoon session, Zana K. Miller, the official representative of the Illinois library association, spoke on the relation of libraries to the forthcoming educational survey in Illinois, and of the importance of the school libraries being included in this survey. She also spoke on "Keeping in touch with our profession," and urged the desirability of membership in state and national library associations.

At the Galesburg district meeting 32 librarians and trustees were registered. Round-table discussion, with Anna Hoover, librarian of the Galesburg public library, as chairman, was the feature of the day.

The first topic was "New publicity ideas." Circularization of a community was one method suggested for attracting readers, which would be recommended if a publicity expert were consulted—with teachers as the first class of persons to receive letters. It was also thought that letters might be written to the people of the community to ask them to read one or two books of non-fiction during Lent; and that the aid of the clergy might well be asked in making this appeal. House to house distribution by boys and girls of folders advertising the library would also help to bring in new readers. Distribution of carefully selected lists to department store heads has also been tried with success. It was reported that the Victrola dealers were willing to distribute lists of books on music to their customers. The new reading lists prepared by the Illinois Library Extension division were mentioned as another means of securing the reading of worth while books. Librarians were encouraged to buy as many of these books as they could afford, and the Division promised to lend as many additional copies as it is able to furnish from its supply. The new educational advisor soon to be added to the staff of the Chicago public library was also mentioned. Posting of the monthly statistics of circulation and registration on library bulletin boards was said to be of interest to readers who do not always see such items of news in the papers.

Various ideas on mending and binding of books were offered. It was said that "soap rubber" for cleaning books is better than art gum; a thin, soft paper, called "Queen City paper," was reported to be better for mending torn leaves, than strips of gummed paper which are unsightly and hard to use.

A county library

At the afternoon session there were a number of trustees present. Prof Luke Robinson, secretary of the Monmouth library board, explained how their library association, a private corporation, had contracted with the supervisors for county service and had, in fact, become a county library; at present the only one in the state. The vote for the county library had been carried by a majority of 1600. The library is in charge of Miss Winifred Wennerstrum, an Albany graduate, who has two trained assistants on her staff. Twelve branches have been started in as many townships, each with a collection of approximately 300 volumes. The branches are managed by local boards which are advisory to the central library board.

The supervisors are expressing confidence in the county library by increasing the appropriation to \$16,000 for the next year, and it is hoped, ultimately, to reach \$28,000 or \$30,000.

The aim is to make the library supplement the education of the public schools and add to the intellectual growth of adults. Prof Robinson expressed himself as very optimistic for the future. He thinks in 20 years, or less, it is not too much to hope that they may have 100,000 volumes and a new building for Warren county. Nearly \$800 is now paid each month for salaries, and about one-fourth of the appropriation is spent for books. There is, at present, a demand for books of a thoughtful character which is gratifying. Monmouth alone is too small to support a very prosperous library, but with a population of 25,000 in the whole county, a really efficient library can be maintained. He sees the ultimate triumph of the county library for two reasons: It distributes the burden of taxation, and it distributes the resulting benefits all over the county. The increased tax for the individual is so slight as not to be noticed.

Nearly an hour was spent in discussion of various possibilities in county work, especially with respect to the

difficulties in counties where there are existing libraries. It was suggested that support for the county library might be gained thru interesting the school children who carry information to their parents, for if the children want libraries, the parents will provide the necessary means to establish the system. Arguments adaptable to the county system may be found in the book "Salvaging civilization," by H. G. Wells.

A very profitable hour was spent in book reviews given by Mrs Flora B. Winger, librarian of Mercer township library, Aledo, Ill. Mr Richmond of the Muscatine public library, a trustee, gave a very illuminating and suggestive talk on new books. He believes that librarians should approach book selection from the angle of current ideas and spoke of the various contemporary topics of interest to the human race. He recommended the purchase of authoritative and popular writers whose books cover such subjects as primitive society and the trend of the race; new science, such as the Einstein theory; the validity of contracts; the present drift of the English language; the protest against old forms of literature which is shown in the new poetry, and the thought behind the best American novels which cover the frontier and its influence. Mr Richmond advised librarians to look for and to know the best books on the depths and tides in human thought, and that this should be the first purpose in book buying.

The American-Scandinavian Foundation has recently received a bequest from the estate of the late William Henry Schoefield, professor of Comparative literature at Harvard, for a library in an educational building to be erected by the Foundation. Prof Schoefield was formerly president of the Foundation, whose purpose is the promotion of educational relations between United States and Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

Library Meetings

California—The annual meeting of the sixth district of the California library association was held in the new library at Santa Barbara, January 7. This district includes the nine southern counties from San Luis Obispo to San Diego. Over 100 librarians enjoyed the hospitality of Mrs Linn and the trustees and found much to admire in the Spanish architecture of the building, with its great fireplaces and the patio which is used as an open air reading room.

A short business meeting included a report from the chairman of the certification committee, Jeannette M. Drake of Pasadena, and an outline of the plans of the California library association by the president, Althea Warren of San Diego.

The program was devoted to books, and all of the speakers at the general sessions, and most of those at the round tables, were new to C. L. A. audiences. Dr Walter Lindley, one of the directors of the Los Angeles public library, gave a charming talk on his adventures in collecting books, showing some of his first editions of *Borrow* and *Gay's Beggars'* opera, and delighting everyone by his contagious enthusiasm. Dr George Watson Cole described the rich collection of manuscripts in the Huntington library, which includes unique treasures of literary and historical interest, as varied as *Franklin's Autobiography* and *George Meredith's Ordeal of Richard Feverel*.

Round table discussions filled the rest of the morning. Mrs Vivian Gregory Smith, librarian of the Security Trust & Savings Bank in Los Angeles, planned an exhibit of business aids and presided at the discussion of books for business men. What makes a novel immoral and standards in the selection of fiction were discussed in the fiction section, with Eleanor Hitt, librarian of the San Diego County free library, presiding. S. M. Jacobus of Pomona presided at an in-

spiring discussion of work with foreigners. Laura Grover Smith, librarian of the Virgil Junior high-school in Los Angeles, led the high-school librarians' discussion, and Elizabeth C. Riddell, librarian of the City school library in Long Beach, presided at the children's section.

The wider use of books was discussed from different angles in the afternoon. Vierling Kersey, supervisor of part-time schools in Los Angeles, showed the need for flexible methods and the coöperation of libraries in part-time classes. C. H. Brown described the work of the A. L. A. with the navy. Eleanor Foster gave a thoughtful presentation of the opportunities of a bookseller in a department store. Ethel Richardson, state superintendent of immigrant education, described the pictures and objects provided by some progressive libraries for the use of teachers of foreigners and showed how the library may be a social factor in the community. The climax of the program was a complex and thought-provoking paper by Ethel Sawyer of Portland, who urged a knowledge of books as the essential of library work.

In the evening the Community Arts Players presented Booth Tarkington's *Clarence*. Many of the librarians spent Sunday in driving over the famous hill roads and exploring the Montecito gardens.

MARION HORTON,
President, Sixth district.

Chicago—The February meeting of the Chicago library club was held in the Art institute, on the evening of February 9.

Mr Frank V. Dudley, the dune artist, lectured on Art and composition in painting, and Mrs Dudley sang groups of songs on out of door subjects.

MARGARET E. ELY,
Secretary.

New York—The January meeting of the New York Special Libraries association was in charge of the Medical group, Miss Sara L. Halliday of the

Public Health division of the Municipal reference library, chairman. The members met around a splendid dinner. The guests of the evening, Dr Royal S. Copeland, commissioner of health of New York City, and Dr Thomas Darlington, a well-known physician of the city, entertained us with interesting after-dinner speeches. Everyone gained a great deal from these two speeches; while decidedly humorous and enjoyable they carried in them much good advice and inspiration. Commissioner Copeland made us realize the great usefulness of library service, and Dr Darlington enthused us with a desire to improve our physical condition thru personal hygiene so that we might give the service expected of us. If any came to the meeting with a grouch, he left with a light heart and a smile.

The association continues to increase its membership; dues should be sent to Miss Elsie Baechtold, Irving National Bank, Woolworth Bldg.

The separate group meetings are being held continually at times chosen by the chairmen. Familiarity of the resources of all the libraries within the group is one of the purposes of these smaller meetings, and the individual librarians realize their importance.

Rhode Island—The Mid-Winter meeting of the Rhode Island library association was held in Providence, February 6, at the John Carter Brown library, with an attendance of 100. This ideal place of meeting gave a wonderful opportunity of viewing rare books and manuscripts of great value.

Dr Charles L. Nichols, of the Board of Management of the library, in his opening address, said that of the two objects of this library, 1) to furnish a place of research for historians and students, and 2) to reproduce for the benefit of the public some of the rarest books in its collection, the second is almost as important as the first. Already nearly 50 unique books in various libraries all over the world have

been reproduced by photostat, some of these from the John Carter Brown library. Now they can be studied in various parts of the country almost at first hand. He related the personal history of two rare books, showing how they came into the possession of the library, *The Pictorial Letter of Columbus*, the first book printed about the Western continent, and *The Bay Psalm Book*, the first book printed in America in the British Colonies.

The association was honored by the presence of Dr Azariah S. Root, president of the A. L. A. In a short address, he emphasized the need of establishing standards, so that the profession will come to be recognized as other professions, law, medicine, teaching, etc., are now recognized. The necessity of some kind of certification was urged. Librarianship requires training and equipment. Help the training schools by giving all the encouragement and backing possible. To guard against the monotony of mechanical work, librarians should emphasize librarianship not as technique, but a gradually acquired mass of knowledge, and should encourage assistants to read and study so that they will become master of some subject, in some particular field, and thus be of real service, and make a contribution to knowledge for those who follow them.

At the round table, conducted by Professor Mary E. Robbins, of the Rhode Island college of education, pamphlets and pay collections were discussed. Professor Robbins said there are certain groups of pamphlets which ultimately become books, where binding is the only thing which can be done. The Columbus letter may have been a pamphlet originally. A vertical file for those constantly in use is the solution in many cases. A vertical file, arranged by subject, is the ideal way, if you have time, money, and space. Other desirable methods are to place pamphlets in cases, or boxes, and those of sufficient importance can be put on

the shelves following the books on that subject. Never make pamphlets into miscellaneous volumes. Professor Robbins expressed himself in favor of a pay collection, provided there are no titles in it which can not be found in the general collection. Its purpose is not to create a money privilege. To those who are willing to pay, it furnishes desirable books and thus counteracts the often undesirable books found in commercial collections. By lessening the demand on the popular volumes in the general collection, it releases them to those who do not wish to pay.

Professor Francis K. W. Drury, assistant librarian of the Brown University library, in his talk on a Library as a detective agency, outlined a method which can be used in presenting the subject for recruiting purposes. The Library, as a detective bureau, has the resources for finding answers to questions. Answers to Mr Edison's 100 questions, intelligence tests, etc., are to be found in books. The chief of the bureau is the librarian. He knows the clues to the answers, and arranges the books so that they will be easily accessible. System is necessary, hence the card-catalog, which is so planned that the desired book may be found quickly. Authors sometime mislead with titles. The detective puts all books about a subject together. This is called classifying. The librarian, like a detective does very little for himself and a great deal for others. Librarianship offers both a livelihood and respectability, and unlike some professions, there is no retirement, save for inefficiency, for librarians are more valuable as they grow older, because of their accumulation of knowledge.*

Henry N. Sanborn, librarian of Public library, Bridgeport, Ct., in his address on the Field of a state library association, asserted that a state association can best accomplish its purpose by meetings in which the programs are confined to purely professional mat-

ters, such as principles of book selection, standards of literary quality in relation to public demand, tests of good children's books, etc., by making provision for free discussion; by initiating and securing legislative action for the good of the profession, and for better service; by educational publicity with other professional associations; and by active affiliation with the A. L. A. Any state association which will carry out such a program with energy and foresight will make its state a leader in the library world.

Following the sessions, many special libraries were thrown open for inspection, and much of the day's pleasure was gained by visiting the Annmary Brown memorial, Col George L. Shepley's library, the R. I. Historical Society, the Providence Athenaeum, and The John Hay library.

MARION L. ARNOLD.

The presidents of the Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas library associations made preliminary plans, at the Chicago midwinter meeting of the American Library Association, for the Missouri Valley library conference to be held at St. Joseph, Missouri, October 17-20 inclusive, 1922, opening Tuesday morning and closing Friday noon. The Iowa association has not voted officially to merge its annual meeting, but Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska have voted definitely. The four presidents and the St. Joseph librarian constitute the program committee. They are: Miss Loretta Murphy, North Platte, Nebraska; Irving R. Bundy, Jefferson City, Missouri; W. F. Riley, Des Moines, Iowa; W. H. Kerr, Emporia, Kansas, and Jesse Cunningham, St. Joseph, Missouri.

The week, April 23-29, has been termed Indiana library week by that state. The idea came from a conference of the library trustees last November for a week of intensified publicity and appeal, emphasizing the value, service and needs of the Public library. A very active, inclusive campaign is being planned and put in operation.

*Prof Drury's paper will appear later in PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Library Meeting Notes*

Why is it that most of the people on the programs, especially those who read their offerings, insist upon holding their heads down, and mumble along in an inaudible tone, so that their audience, half a dozen seats away, cannot understand what they are saying. We were told that the acoustics of the halls in which we met are to blame for some of the difficulty, but it is a notorious fact that most people do not speak loud nor distinctly enough to be heard a few feet away. This is not alone true of the last state meeting, but of past meetings, both national and state.

One of the young librarians from the Chicago public library was so anxious to hear Miss Hazeltine speak on "What is a children's librarian," that she boarded a train at 2 o'clock a. m., arriving in Champaign sometime between five and six o'clock, applied for accommodations at the Inman, and finding a "full house," dosed in an arm chair in the ladies parlor until breakfast time. She attended all the meetings on that day—heard Miss Hazeltine, and departed for Chicago late that same evening. How is that for that much abused word, "interest"?

Nineteen members of the staff of the Chicago public library attended the meeting.

Mr Roden induced his Board to appropriate enough money to send 15 members of the staff to the meeting. This is the best sort of an investment for any library. Everyone returned full of enthusiasm, and we enjoyed a "Conference" meeting on next Tuesday morning after the "book meeting," for the benefit of those who had to remain at home "to look after the house."

J. F. P.

Library Notes

*Details of the construction and general appearance of a newspaper file worked out by the Public library of

*Some notes on the annual meeting of Illinois library association which were crowded out of the recent report. *Editor.*

Jacksonville, Florida, show a maximum amount of service in a minimum of space and are calculated to obviate the usual appearance of disorder that the average small newspaper rack gives.

It is designed to fit the L. B. Multifile, although variations in size of the compartments could be made to fit other sticks preferred by librarians. In a depth of about two and one-half feet, filing space for 24 newspapers is provided. With a full number of papers in place, not one is exposed and the case has the appearance of a piece of furniture rather than a rack of ragged newspapers.

To answer the question, "How is one to know what papers it contains?" each stick bears the title both ways so that one side will always be in reading position. The small titles from the editorial page are pasted on the stick and covered with shellac. The rack is the result of the combined ideas of a librarian and an architect.

J. F. M.

A noteworthy gift to the Indianapolis public library and one which is of particular interest to book lovers is a part of the Andrew Lang collection, gathered by Frank Graef Darlington, railroad official and book collector of Indianapolis who died some years ago. Mr Darlington's collection of books represents the work of many years and is exceptionally complete. It consists of books written, edited or compiled by Andrew Lang, books about him, books dedicated to him and books by other writers to which he contributed prefaces and introductions.

Shortly before his death, Mr Darlington acquired the Fowler library of Lang books, an English collection even more complete than his own. Many of the volumes in the two collections were duplicates and these have been presented to the Indianapolis public library by Mrs Darlington. They include early and rare editions of Lang's writings and many obscure books unknown to the average reader.

Interesting Things in Print

A supplementary list of references on the Kansas Court of Industrial Relations, compiled by Laura A. Thompson, librarian of the United States Department of Labor, has been issued. The last supplement was issued, February 24, 1921.

Mrs Kate Douglas Wiggin in writing to the publishers of "Romance to the rescue," says, "Who is the author? How I'd like to have him under my roof! Is he young? Do *push* him and bury some of the drab, sordid, humorless sex things out of sight and hearing!"

A series of exhibits of American prints has been arranged by the New York public library, the first exhibition being in February and devoted to "Portraits old and new." Displays to follow are "Old city views," in March; "The modern etcher and the city," in April and "American scenery in prints," in May.

The Travel bureau of the *Chicago Daily News* has prepared an attractive, beautifully illustrated bulletin giving detailed information as to the most desirable places to go, the best hotels and steamship routes. It contains, also, descriptions of recreational activities in the different localities. On request, more information may be had by applying to the Daily News Resort and Travel bureau.

Syllabus Series of the University of California, No. 34, deals with the use of the library. A pamphlet of 36 pages gives definite instruction, for the use of the students, relating to the resources of the various departments, cataloging, bibliography and reference. It was prepared for the Department of English by Frank M. Bumstead, superintendent of circulation in the University library. The value of the pamphlet, which is no slight thing, is increased by the addition of an index.

The H. W. Wilson Company has sent out a new edition of "Directions for the librarian of a small library." The book was originally prepared by Miss Zaidie

Brown and first printed by the New York state education department and later by the Massachusetts library commission in 1911. It has been revised by Miss Anna G. Hall of the New York state library department; Miss E. Louise Jones of the Massachusetts free public library commission, and Miss Ruth L. Brown of the Vermont public library commission. The book is issued now for the League of library commissions.

The papers of the Bibliographical Society of America, volume 14, 1920, part one, has been issued by the University of Chicago Press under the direction of the Publication committee, George P. Winship, Carl B. Roden, and Andrew Keogh.

The contents are: A very exhaustive paper furnishing a forecast of bibliography by George Watson Cole; an appraisal of Sir William Osler by Leonard L. Mackall; a paper on John Boyd Thacher by Edith Brinkmann.

The pamphlet of 44 pages closes with notes of books and workers. It also included the minutes of the annual meeting in 1920 and the report of the treasurer.

The *Open Court* for December, 1921, contains an article on the East Asiatic works in the Newberry library, by John T. Bramhall. Considerable description is given to the material which was collected by Dr Berthold Laufer, while conducting investigations in the Far East for the Field museum of Natural history. He was commissioned by the Newberry library to gather for them a representative collection, with the result that he collected over a thousand volumes of East Asiatic works on religion, philosophy, history, etc. This now makes a library of over 21,000 volumes, representative of the Chinese, Manchu, Tibetan, and Mongol literatures.

The papers and proceedings of the American Library Institute for 1920-21 have been put in print by the secretary, Mr Andrew Keogh of Yale University library.

The principal material in the number for 1920 covers:

Statistics of university libraries; Pitfalls in comparative statistics; Cost of upkeep of library buildings; Book poverty and book purchase; Follow-up purchase; Proposed catalog of university publications; Coöperation with the Institute of International Education and a paper on the late Charles Henry Gould.

The number for 1921 covers:

Notes on the American library in Paris; An old New England method of book distribution; Economics of library architecture; Short cataloging and bibliographical cataloging; Personnel specifications for library work; A project: the college reading of men who afterwards became famous; League of Nations: The international organization of intellectual work, and international library coöperation.

Valuable addenda to the 1921 proceedings are the constitution of the Institute and the list of Fellows in June, 1921.

Better Business Libraries

Better business libraries: talks with executives, by Louise B. Krause, librarian of H. M. Bylesby & Co., Chicago, puts into available form, additional new and much needed information on business libraries.

Good and sufficient reasons are given for the establishment of libraries in different types of business houses. The functions of such service are explained, covering commercial, industrial, and library research, of benefit to all the various departments of any business, whether finance, auditing, sales, publicity, industrial relations, or educational and welfare work.

A very clear distinction is drawn for the executive, between the service given by the "nice, bright girl," who is so often selected by employment managers to act as librarian, a technically trained man who thinks he can work out an original library system, a correspondence file clerk, a stenographer or private secretary, and the service of the trained librarian who has both the educational background and the added requisite of a knowledge of library administration. The value of

the trained librarian even in the smaller business organizations is clearly brought out by showing that a librarian may, if time will permit, do other editorial and special work for which library training has especially prepared such a person.

The book has chapters on what books and periodicals, indexes and digests are especially useful in business libraries, with specific information on finance and trade services, as well as what information in government documents is of particular value and interest to business men. Those who follow the directions will have no difficulty in procuring the business information which they desire from the government.

In a chapter on "Arrangement of material," the difference between the Decimal system and the alphabetical subject system is clearly explained. Miss Krause believes much time is wasted by business librarians trying to expand the Dewey Decimal system to meet special needs, when the simplest and most logical arrangement is the exact subject word under which the material on a given subject may be filed. She believes it folly for librarians to try to educate business people to understand the Decimal system when they are already familiar with a simple system, namely the English alphabet, and the specific name of the subjects about which they are continually talking in their business.

The book is of such general value in its suggestion of sources of material for reference work on business topics, particularly in the chapter of "Finance and trade services," which is presented in so compact and helpful manner, that it will be indispensable for reference librarians in any public library which attempts to serve business men. It may be used easily also as the basic text for a library school course on business libraries. If extra copies are provided for circulation to the general reader in public or university libraries, the book will help spread the gospel of the present day necessity of books as tools in the business world.

Library Schools

Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh

The two weeks from January 30-February 11 were mainly given over to blocked practice work. The students electing the General course were scheduled for 40 hours a week practice in the University of Pittsburgh, the library of the Carnegie institute of technology and in the various agencies of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh. Those specializing in library work with children had experience in the children's rooms. The new semester started February 13, with an enrollment of 31 students; 18 specializing in library work with children and 13 in general library work.

During February, the school had the pleasure of having as their guests, Miss June Donnelly, director of the Simmons library school, and Mlle Duproix, a student in the library school of the New York public library.

Mrs Catherine M. Hoyt, chief of Medical social service, of the Pittsburgh chapter of the American Red Cross, and Miss Nell Scott, case-supervisor, Associated Charities, Pittsburgh, have lectured to the students in the course on the library and community work.

Grace King, Diploma '21, has accepted the position of librarian in the Victory high school library, Clarksburg, W. Va.

Beatrice M. Kelly, '06, was married in February to George E. Sharpe, Sycamore Hill, Steubenville, Ohio.

NINA C. BROTHERTON,
Principal.

University of Illinois

The course in library work for children will be given this year by Miss Elizabeth Knapp, chief of the children's department of the Detroit public library, who gave the course in 1921. Miss Knapp's work will begin on March 22 and will continue for three weeks, closing at the Easter vacation. Miss Knapp will meet the seniors five times a week for three weeks and the juniors twice a week for the same period.

Members of the senior class were as-

signed as follows for the usual month of field work during the month of February:

Fanny A. Coldren and Marie M. Hostetter, Public library, Detroit, Michigan; Myron W. Getchell, University of Chicago library; Percy Don Hammond, Public library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Kate S. Kepler, Public library, Davenport, Iowa; Isaac V. Lucero, Indianapolis public library; Ruth C. McCaughtry, Public library, Decatur, Illinois; Jackson E. Towne, St. Louis public library; Sara L. Woods, Public library, Muncie, Indiana. Miles O. Price completed his assignment at the John Crerar library about the middle of January.

Ruth Sankee, librarian of the University high school library, will give a course in High school library management during the second semester. The course is open to juniors and seniors and meets twice a week.

Announcement has been received of the marriage on January 21 of Clara A. Chamberlain, ex '22, to Arthur J. Scott of Detroit, Michigan.

Ruth C. McCaughtry, who has been at her home for the last semester regaining her health, has reentered the senior class and will graduate next February.

Elizabeth Peters, '19-'20, has resigned her position as assistant librarian at Muncie, Indiana, and is regaining her health in the Trudeau sanitarium, Saranac, New York.

FRANCES SIMPSON.

Los Angeles public library

Visitors during the month have been Miss Maud Stull, supervisor of branches and the training class in Kansas City, and Mrs Elizabeth Gray Potter, librarian of Mills college. Miss Stull spoke briefly to the school on the distinctive features of the Kansas city public library.

Two of the special students in the course in children's books and storytelling are in charge of the children's sections of local book-stores.

A special course in advanced cataloging and bibliographical research will be given by Mr Goulding, chief cataloger in the Huntington library beginning April 3. The Elzevirs, Aldines and early Spanish books in the Los Angeles public library will be the basis of the cataloging lessons, which will be preceded by lectures on the principles of cataloging rare books,

and practice in using bibliographical aids.

MARION HORTON,
Principal.

New York public library

The senior course in Book selection, to which are admitted as auditors all librarians who are interested, opened on February 9. The program for the remaining evenings to be occupied by it is as follows:

March 9, Room 73—Round table on periodicals, led by Miss Carolyn F. Ulrich, chief of periodicals division, New York public libraries.

March 16, Room 213—Publishing and publishers. Mr Alfred Harcourt, president of Harcourt, Brace & Company, Publishers.

March 23, Room 213—A plea for rural town gardens. Mrs Martha Brookes Hutcheson, landscape gardener.

April 6, Room 73—Round table on Garden and nature books, led by Miss I. H. Horak, librarian, Rivington Street branch, New York public library.

April 13, Room 213—The new American novel. Dr Carl Van Doren, literary editor of *The Nation*, author of "The American Novel."

April 20, Room 73—Round table on present-day fiction, led by Miss Hannah C. Ellis, librarian of the Hamilton Fish Park branch, New York public library.

April 27, Room 213—Topic to be announced. Dean Howard Chandler Robbins, The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York City.

The school had the pleasure in January of hearing a lecture by Mr James I. Wyer, upon the organization and work of the New York state library. It joined also in an invitation by which Mr W. O. Carson, inspector of public libraries for the province of Ontario, was brought to this side of the line on a speaking tour, including four library schools. Mr Carson's lecture here dealt with library work and library possibilities in Ontario.

In connection with the evening library school lectures and also with the lectures to be given by Mr S. K. Ratcliffe under the auspices of the Staff association, a series of cafeteria suppers is planned by the Staff association. The proceeds of the suppers on Thursday evenings are to be devoted to paying the expenses of a member or

members of the New York public library staff at the state meeting in September; and to meeting in part the living expenses of some member of the staff who may enter the library school

ERNEST J. REECE,
Principal.

New York state library

In connection with the course on school libraries, Mr Edwin B. Richards, specialist in English, University of the State of New York, spoke on the importance and function of the school library with reference especially to the English and history departments; Miss Celia M. Houghton of the Albany high school, spoke on the high school library. Her lecture was given at the high school and the students were taken about the library afterward.

On February 1, Professor Azariah S. Root, librarian, Oberlin College library, gave a very inspiring talk on American librarians and scholarship.

On February 6, Miss Lilian Callahan, librarian, Albany free library, completed a series of three lectures on Circulation department work. These lectures formed part of a course in which Miss Quigley of the Free public library of Endicott, N. Y., and Miss Vought of the School libraries division, also gave lectures.

Amy L. Post, who entered the school in the fall of 1918, but was unable to finish the second half of the year, returned in February to complete the first year's work. In the interval she has done some teaching and also spent several months on the staff of the Haverford College library.

The school will close on March 6 for the month of field practice work, the students having received assignments in the following libraries:

In New York state—Brooklyn public library, Brooklyn girls' high school library, Chazy rural school library, Endicott free public library, New York public library, Rochester public library, Utica public library and the Washing-

ton Irving high school library in New York city.

Outside the state—Bryn Mawr College library, Detroit public library, Public library of the District of Columbia, Minnesota University library, Public library, Morristown, N. J., Newark free public library, Princeton University library, Springfield City library association and the University of Michigan library.

The period of practice work will be followed by the biennial visit to New England libraries, April 4-11.

EDNA M. SANDERSON,
Vice-director.

Pratt Institute

The annual luncheon of the Graduates' association was held, February 3. About 75 were present, among them Mrs Mildred Collar Gardner of Newport, R. I., who was heartily welcomed by the graduates of all classes preceding 1910. The principal speaker was Dr Gilman, president of Boone university, Hankow, China, who gave a deeply interesting account of present conditions in China. He paid a glowing tribute to Miss Mary Wood, librarian of the Boone library, who studied at Pratt during a year's leave of absence from China in 1907.

The vice-director spoke on the problems that society is facing as the result of the increasing use of automatic machines in industry, and the opportunity for service that the situation brings, both to the special and to the public library.

In conclusion, the director, Mr Stevens, presented the plan of a scholarship fund which he advocated starting, using the life memberships, amounting to \$605, as a nucleus. The idea was cordially received. Mr Stevens also spoke of the poster the school has sent to about 140 colleges, inviting college students to consider librarianship as a career.

At the business meeting preceding the luncheon, the following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Miss Mary C. Parker, su-

pervisor of files, Federal Reserve Bank, New York; vice-president, Miss Edyth L. Miller, librarian, Rockefeller Foundation; secretary, Miss Marcia N. Dalphin, librarian, Public library, Rye; treasurer, Miss Marian Cutter of the Children's Bookshop, New York; member of the executive committee, Miss Katherine Tappert, Pratt Institute free library.

In addition to the lectures on the library administration of different types of libraries, which form a regular feature of the second term's work, the school has recently enjoyed talks by Mrs Beatrice Forbes-Robertson Hale and Christopher Morley, the former on public speaking and the latter on the evolution of a poet, with illustrations from Chimneysmoke.

The class attended the February meeting of the New York library club devoted to a consideration of the "Intimate bookshops of New York," and a special meeting of the New York high school librarians at the Washington Irving high school on February 11.

The course of open meetings on Book selection offered by the New York school has been made a class exercise as part of our own course in book selection.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-director.

Riverside, Cal.

The 10 weeks winter short course of the Riverside Library Service school began January 9 with 34 students in attendance, of which 26 are from California, 2 from Washington, 2 from New York and 1 each from Arizona, Oklahoma, Missouri and S. Dakota. This is the largest winter school class we have ever held. The classes are being held in the new addition to the library which has just been completed.

It is hoped that the building adjoining the library which was purchased for school purposes will be remodeled and ready for use during the summer session. This will provide for the additional floor space which was so much

needed and will give ample room for the student classes.

Mrs Mabelle Chace Grover, '14, has been recently appointed librarian at Santa Cruz high school. She succeeds Miss Elizabeth Patton, '18, who has accepted a position in one of the junior high schools at Berkeley.

LILLIAN L. DICKSON,
Acting librarian.

St. Louis

The students have had during the month of February two weeks of laboratory work, being distributed among the following departments of the library: Catalog, reference, circulation, open shelf, stations, traveling library and children's departments, and the branch libraries, including the two newly opened in school buildings. Each student has had two different assignments of one week during the month and it is intended that each shall do work in all of the above mentioned departments before the close of the school year.

In addition, six pupils of the school have been doing organization work in the U. S. Public Health Service hospital under Miss Frances Sawyer, a graduate of the Wisconsin library school. They are reclassifying the collection of books in the hospital library and cataloging, shelf-listing and preparing them for circulation. On alternate days they have been given experience in the hospital wards giving out books.

The books in foreign languages now deposited in the Barnes Hospital library by the public library are receiving annotations in English for the use of voluntary workers. The books represented include volumes in French, German, Spanish, Italian, and Yiddish.

The social side of library work has been represented in the school by participation of the pupils in Visitors' nights given at the library and especially in their acting as guides to the library and its activities on these and other occasions.

A. E. B.

Simmons college

Miss Donnelly spent January 18-19 at the Ohio state university library in

Columbus, gaining, under the expert guidance of Miss Olive Jones and her staff, some insight into the methods of administration of a library which serves a small army of university students and instructors. The architecture of the building, the methods of ordering and classification, the treatment of "reserve books," and the bibliographical courses given by Mr Reeder to the university students were especially noted. The hospitality of the staff and the privilege of meeting a group of the senior students interested in librarianship as a career added to the pleasure of the visit, and it was particularly good luck to be on the spot when the announcement was made of Mr Hirshberg's appointment as state librarian of Ohio.

The high schools of Cincinnati have independent libraries, and Miss Donnelly was fortunate in being permitted to attend a meeting of the high school librarians. She spoke to the senior girls on "Library work as a vocation."

Several special lecturers have addressed the combined group of seniors and college graduates: Miss E. Louise Jones, of the Massachusetts library commission, discussed the work of the commission; Mr Faxon spoke on the work of the F. W. Faxon Co.; Mr Carson, inspector of public libraries in Ontario, told entertainingly of the libraries of Canada, giving libraries of Ontario particular mention; Mrs LaForge, instructor in Design at Simmons college, gave an interesting talk on Library posters and bulletin boards; Dr Root, president of the A. L. A., described most interestingly his work in the Oberlin college library; Mr Austin B. Keep gave an illustrated lecture on Early American libraries; Mr Edwin Wiley, of the U. S. Naval War college, Newport, R. I., treated historically, the subject of Library buildings and showed numerous slides of early and modern libraries; Mr C. F. McCombs, who is in charge of the main reading room of the New York public library,

made clear the many problems presented in a reference room.

Visits have been made to the libraries of Providence, R. I., the Massachusetts state library, the Boston Athenaeum, and the Widener library at Harvard. On February 3, the class attended the meeting of the Massachusetts library club.

HARRIET E. HOWE,
Acting director.

Syracuse University

On January 5, Miss Mary Saxe of Westmount public library, Montreal, Canada, gave a stimulating address to the school on library administration.

The school resumed work for the second semester on January 26, after the mid-year examinations. On that day, Mr W. O. Carson gave an interesting talk on library conditions in Canada and the making of a library budget.

Forrest Spaulding, formerly on the staff of the New York public library and more recently in library service in Peru, addressed the school on February 2 on conditions in South America and the library outlook there.

On February 9, William Heyliger, author of "High Benton" and other books for boys, gave an interesting and forward-looking talk on standards in literature for young people.

The junior class on their own initiative have organized for the reading aloud, on bi-monthly evenings, of drama of current interest. This has been so successful that it has been followed by numerous requests for the inclusion of guests and there is every indication that it will be one of the most popular and successful organizations of the year.

In anticipation of the senior trip to Washington during the Easter vacation and as affording some background and familiarity with that city, the school was shown, on February 16, a set of lantern slides of Washington and its environs. Some interesting slides of birds were also shown.

Western Reserve University

With the opening of the second semester, the attention of the students in the General course becomes somewhat centered on the individual problem work connected with it. One phase of this work is the preparation of subject bibliographies for the general reference division of the Cleveland public library and for the various divisions of the main library. An effort is being made this year to correlate this even more closely with the specific library needs. During the fall, five student bibliographies prepared by the class of 1921 were lent to reference departments outside of Cleveland. The bibliography on European war fiction in English, compiled by Loleta I. Dawson, '20, has recently been issued as Part I of Useful reference series, No. 25, published by the F. W. Faxon Co.

During the past month, an interesting group of visiting lecturers has spoken to the students either in connection with regular courses or by special arrangement. Just before her return to France, Miss Jessie Carson gave a talk illustrated by slides, on her library work in the devastated regions of France. This was given at the Cleveland museum of art under the auspices of the school, the library staff and general public being invited as guests. On the same day, Miss Helen Gilchrist of New York spoke on book reviewing as an occupation, to the members of the class in Book selection. Miss Gilchrist has done reviewing for *The Dial* and other journals.

The following persons have spoken before the combined classes during the periods devoted to the discussion of the library's relation to community welfare: Mr Sheldon of the Cleveland recreation council on Cleveland's recreation needs; Dr Jane Robbins of the East End neighborhood house, Cleveland, on The Italian child; Mrs Eleanor E. Ledbetter, librarian of Broadway branch, on Work with the foreign born. On February 2, Mrs Eleanor

Rowland Wembridge, author of various articles and books on psychology and formerly professor in Reed college, began a series of Thursday lectures on Psychology and the evaluation of psychological literature.

THIRZA E. GRANT,
Acting-director.

University of Wisconsin

The class of 1922 celebrated the beginning of its own year by welcoming the president of the American Library Association, Prof Azariah S. Root, to the library school on January 2. To do themselves this honor, they returned from the holiday recess in advance of other departments of the university, and spent the legal New Year's day in school. They were more than repaid for this change in their holiday plans, for Mr Root gave two able lectures on the "History of books and printing," and spoke at the supper which all attended.

A tradition of the school has come to be the hanging of the calendar of the new year in the gallery. Mr Root presided over this function and extended the greetings of the library world to a class which would begin its service in 1922.

A supper was given by the librarians of Madison in honor of Mr Root, at the Capitol café. Covers were laid for 130 guests, including Governor and Mrs John J. Blaine, Justice and Mrs Burr W. Jones, State Superintendent of Public Instruction and Mrs John Callahan. The supper was preceded by a reception in the governor's reception room, where Governor and Mrs Blaine, Mr Root, and Mr and Mrs Lester received.

Following the supper, with Mr Lester acting as toast-master, Governor Blaine extended greetings to the guest of honor and to the librarians present. He commended warmly the service and work of libraries and emphasized the need of making books available to all the ordinary people, not limiting library service to special groups. Mr

Root responded, discussing the problems now confronting the library profession and its dependence on the development of expert librarianship. He maintained that certification of librarians, their adequate training, and their recognition within the community, will make for this development.

Field practice began on January 26, a week earlier than usual, because the semester opened earlier in September. The weeks in January were therefore busy ones since the technical courses were finished, and time allotted for lectures in publicity, practice in mending, and directions for field practice. The following special lectures were given during this period: Library instruction in schools, by Mary A. Smith, librarian, Madison free library; Continental fiction, by Professor Lathrop, of the English department; Newspaper publicity for libraries, by Professor Bleyer of the School of journalism; Work of the traveling library department, by Miss Long, chief of the department.

Examinations brought the work to a close on January 24, and the following day the students started for their field appointments, 23 students going to 22 libraries in 19 communities of the state.

The four credit course open to graduate students, seniors, and juniors in the College of letters and science, who are preparing to be teachers and expect to administer high school libraries in connection with their teaching, continues with the second semester, which opened February 6. There is a registration of 12. Of these, one is a graduate student, 10 are seniors, and one is a junior. The class meets thruout the year on Tuesday and Thursday. The lessons include reference, cataloging and classification, library economy, book selection, and school library administration, which covers lessons in how to teach the use of the library.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE.

Department of School Libraries

Can You Find the Hidden Books?

Jack and Jill stood in the midst of the enchanted forest. Yes, little curly-head, they were brother and sister but they were not Irish twins, nor did they live in the days of Alfred the great. You will have to guess again. They were the boy who knew what the birds said and the girl who sat by the ashes. They were on their way to the children's fairy land, where in Pinafore palace, owned by the whirling king was the wonder clock. They had heard of it in the queen's story book. Lolami, the little cliff dweller and Docas, the boy who went to the east, had told them the way, which led thru trails to woods and waters. Now they were waiting in this magic forest undecided which way to proceed on their great quest.

"What shall we do now?" asked Jill, for she was afraid of the little folks in feathers and fur who lived in the tree-top and meadow and knew all the secrets of the woods.

"We'll go as the goose flies," answered Jack, "and we'll soon be in the land of Fair Play."

"But I'm cold!" cried Jill.

"Who's cold?" piped a small voice, and lo, before them stood a snow baby.

"I'm Hans, the Eskimo," it said, "I'm one of the children of the cold. Don't be frightened, little folks."

"Can you tell us the way?" asked Jack.

"No, indeed," replied Hans, "I'm one of the strange peoples and it's far too warm here for me."

With that the sun shone on him and he melted into water before their very eyes. He was now one of the water babies.

The two little travellers now heard the sound of music—ting a ling. Could these queer looking people be the toys of Nuremburg? Oh, no. They were nothing but dolls.

"We are the dolls of many lands,"

they sang, "from strange lands near home."

"Then perhaps you could tell us the way," ventured Jill.

"Oh, yes," said the one they called the lonesomest doll, "We can tell you anything provided you know how to dress a doll."

"I can," said Jill, "when mother lets us play at sewing I can just make anything."

"I'm a jack of all trades," said Jack.

"Then turn to the right, pass under the lilacs and you will meet the bee man of Orn." With these words the dolls marched on singing their same old song.

"Come on, brother," cried Jill, excitedly, "I think I see a little house in the woods."

House it was, but what a queer one. What a swarm of insect folk they found when they knocked on the door.

"Yes, I'll tell you the way," said the ancient man who opened the door, "but first you must catch the bluebird who steals my butterflies and bees."

"But how can we?" asked the children.

"Use pepper and salt, of course," said a gruff voice, and from under the window stepped Jack, the giant-killer.

"How do you know this?" asked the children.

"I know everything indoors, outdoors, and up the chimney. Did I not slay three good giants?"

"Indeed, you are one of every boy's heroes," said Jack, "but can you guide us on our way?"

"Ah," said the giant-killer, "go no farther until you have procured the rose and the ring, for without them you cannot enter the palace gates. The king's son, the little lame prince, or as some people call him, the floating prince, cannot live without these treasures."

"Where will we find the rose?" asked Jill, "and is the rose in bloom?"

"In Johnny Crow's garden," said

their friend, "and the ring lies in the magic chest buried on Treasure Island at the end of a rainbow."

"Then we will have to go back," said the children, sadly, "for we could never find that place."

But stay, wait. A lively boy stepped around the corner of the house. It was Chris and the wonderful lamp. He had come at last. I wonder why? To help the children and to end this tale, of course.

Two rubs of the lamp and they had the treasures in their hands. One more rub and they were knocking at the palace gate. When the king came they gave him the gifts and in exchange for these he gave them the clock which was more priceless than all the clocks of Rondaine.

The end.

[The above is a copy of a story worked out by Miss Elizabeth Fangmeyer, children's librarian at Walnut Hills branch library, Cincinnati, during Children's Book Week. There are 65 book titles in the story. Posted on a bulletin board it attracted considerable attention and while a number of children were able to find between 50 and 60 of the titles, one child found 60 out of the possible 65 titles.]

Judging Books

Four questions were recently asked of each child in the Washington School of San Diego, Cal., where the Public library maintains a branch. They were: 1) Have you a library card? 2) How many books do you read each week? 3) What books have you liked? 4) What books do you not like?

The answers frequently contained salutary antidotes for a librarian's vanity. The statistician who maintains that the pellucid stream of literature slakes 90 per cent of man's recreational thirst has never met the small Scottish boy in the fourth grade.

1) "No, I have not a library card."

2) "I don't read any books a week. I don't get books anywhere."

3) "I have not read any books at all and I don't know nothing about books to tell."

4) "I don't know anything about the books and so I don't know whether I like them or not."

Next to absolute scorn the most disconcerting reaction was that of apathy. A girl in the eighth grade cleverly implied that in the gray land of her indifference Mrs Alice Hegan Rice occupied higher ground than Longfellow or Shakespeare. "I have not read any books that I care much about," she said, "but I have read Mrs Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch, Evangeline and Julius Caesar. I don't care much about Julius Caesar or Evangeline."

There were of course many compensating outbursts of enthusiasm. One boy asserted, "I never came across any books that I really dislike." The reasons for not liking certain titles were various and amusing. One little girl thought that the Wizard of Oz was "too thick." A young Cromwell condemned "books of love stories or any about girls." A wise opportunist remarked, "I don't know of any books I don't like because I always pick out the kind I like." "By always taking what others boys like," advised another philosopher, "you will always like it yourself." And, by the doctrine of New Thought, another asserted, "I cannot tell anything about the books I do not like because I never remember them."

A girl in eighth grade feared Captains Courageous did not seem "true to the likeness of life." Another diagnosed Don Quixote as "kind of sillie," and a lisping critic of seven wrote that she felt the "Thtory of Thimble Thimen to be too baby-like." The weary librarian's doubts as to the value of facts revealed by questionnaires should vanish before the prime achievement of this contest, which was to disclose the most difficult word to spell in the whole English language. It is—"whiskers"—as is proved by these four variations of Billy Whiskers selected from a score of similar agonies: "Beall Weas," "Billy Wiscers," "Billy Hwisskes," "Bill Wherkings."

Maximum and Minimum Instruction***Lessons in use of books and libraries**

The following outline emphasizes the fundamentals for instruction in the use of books and libraries. It is intended for pupils in the grades or high school where such instruction is given. Much time may be saved if the library terms used are listed on the black-board, and simply and clearly defined.

The lessons usually given on the care of the book, the explanation of the

arrangement of the library, and of the routine in borrowing and returning books are omitted here. These may be included in a talk on the library before the whole school at the time assigned for opening exercises. It is not undesirable to repeat such explanation every year at the opening of school.

W. L. D.

Lesson I*Books for teachers*

Library lessons for high schools p.16-17
Lessons on the use of the school library, p.124-5
Apprentice course, p.10
How to use a library, p.23-30
Suggestive outlines, p.30-6

Terms to be defined

Classification
Decimal classification
Class number
Author number
Call number
Accession number

Lesson II

How to use a library, p.13-22
Apprentice course, p.23-4
Lessons on the use of books and libraries, p.36-52
Suggestive outlines, p.36-9

Dictionary catalog
Catalog card
Card catalog
Author card
Title card
Subject card
Analytics

Lesson III

Review the principles explained in lessons I and II. The new material introduced is an explanation of the divisions of the classes, using 300, 500, and 900 as examples.

Lesson IV

Reference guides: periodical indexes
Practical use of books and libraries p.68-72
Apprentice course, p.55-6
How to use a library, p.39-48
Lessons on the use of the school library, p.125-7
Use of books and libraries, p.101-9

Indexes
Poole's index
Readers' guide
Magazine file
Checklist
Entry

Lesson V

By means of problems and questions pupils are made to apply the principles brought out in the four lessons. They are to find the desired books on the shelves by way of the card catalog and magazine articles by way of *Readers' Guide*, *Poole*, and the use of the library's magazine checklist.

Lesson VI

Reference guides: parts of a book
How to use a library, p.13-19
Instruction in the use of books and libraries, p.40-7
Suggestive outlines, p.20-6; 40-53
Lessons on the use of the school library, p.23-26

Parts of a book
Reference books
Indexes and devices
Reference collections
General reference books
Special reference books

Reference list of books and pamphlets cited above

Apprentice course for small libraries, by the faculty, Library school of the University of Wisconsin. A. L. A. 1917.
How to use a library, by Connolly. Elm Tree Press, 1917. For sale by H. W. Wilson Co.
Instructions in the use of books and libraries, by Fay & Eaton. Faxon Co. 1919
Lessons on the use of books and libraries, by Rice. Rand. 1920
Lessons on the use of the school library, by Rice. Wis. dept. of public instruction. 1915
Library lessons for high schools, by Rice. Wis. dept. of public instruction. 1918
Practical use of books and libraries, by Ward. Boston Bk. Co. 1916
Reference guides that should be known and how to use them, by Hopkins. Willard Co. 1919 (Pamphlet edition).
Suggestive outlines for teaching the use of the library, by Ward. Faxon Co. 1919

*See P. L. 27:81

School Libraries vs. Public Libraries

The tendency of the school authorities to reach out more and more toward taking over the administration of library service for the community is one that should be protested before it grows stronger or leads to more definite acquisition as seems to be imminent in some places at the present time.

For years, librarians have been urging the school people to make a place for teaching the use of books, for acquiring by students a knowledge of books, their kind, class, significance and their place in the life of the world. The constant urge, the effective presentation of plans of work and the vision of the librarians have had a real effect on the school people and a zeal has been born in the minds of many teachers that has borne good fruit in the vision they have been able to create in their students as to the part books play in the business of living. This has been an admirable thing and a very good thing for the outgoing students. More and more of this is needed and will always be a necessary thing in formal education.

But school management, which oftentimes has caught the zeal but unfortunately has not acquired the real knowledge that should go with it, sees in the educational phase of the use of books a thing that might extend and deepen the field of its activity if it were part of the administration with which school management is charged. And here is where the mistake lies, for mistake it is, undoubtedly, as experience, observation, and results very clearly show. A school library is a necessary part of good school equipment, for the pupils of the school, primary, or advanced, where the science of books and the principles of their use should be taught thoroughly and in such fashion as will make a lasting impression of joyful knowledge. Then the pupil freed from school restraint and demands, goes on to the intelligent use of books in his life as a citizen, free from all restraint but with a knowledge of and a power of analysis that will

make him an intelligent user of books and therefore a valuable citizen.

But the school management is not prepared to administer a library for adults and has as little claim on its conduct as on a chemist shop or board of any public service for which it may have prepared its students.

The school will have done its whole library duty when it has taught the use of books as tools and inculcated a love of books as friends in the minds of the youth under its care. The management of public libraries or their inclusion in the circle of school authorities is outside the province of any school. It has always failed, it will always fail, for it is not a true relation.

M. E. A.

The U. S. Bureau of Education

In his report for the year 1921, U. S. Commissioner of Education, John J. Tigert says:

I am of the opinion that the Department should seriously consider the question as to the advisability of continuing the Bureau of Education on the present basis of wholly inadequate support. The need for a National Governmental agency to perform the functions expected of this bureau is imperative and unquestioned. The efforts to meet the need, however, are largely nullified by the legislative restrictions and financial limitations by which the Bureau is at present handicapped. In my judgment, it would be better for the Federal Government to withdraw from this field of activity entirely unless provision is to be made for it on a more liberal basis, and the policy definitely adopted of attempting to render in an effective and authoritative way the kinds of constructive service which the people and the educators themselves demand. It is futile to continue this organization on the present penurious basis and to expect returns that justify the outlay.

These are strong words and true. And they ought to sink into the minds of those who are looking askance at the Towner-Stirling bill for Federal aid for education. The latter is coming in time, even now, the opposition is vanishing as it finds its objection founded on sand and when the bill is finally in force, few will acknowledge they ever thought it anything but good.

A public service that is worth anything at all, is worthy of fair support.

News from the Field

East

Loretta Knightly, Simmons, '18, has been for some time at her home in Amherst on account of ill health.

According to a statement made by the librarian, the Harvard University library now ranks third in size among the libraries of the country. At present, it numbers 2,100,000 volumes and pamphlets, and is unsurpassed by any other university collection, altho the Congressional library at Washington and the New York public library are larger.

Lucy E. Osborne, Simmons, '09, has been appointed custodian of the Chapin collection of rare books which is to be housed in the Williams College library, as soon as the new building is completed, probably by November, 1922. Miss Osborne has been head cataloger in the Williams College library, 1914-1922, and is resigning to accept this new position. The interval from the present time until her new duties begin, Miss Osborne will spend in New York, studying and visiting other special collections.

Recently the Boston public library had on display in the fine arts department a collection of Dickensiana "such as was never seen before." The honor of displaying the collection for two weeks was given to the Boston public library by the owner of the collection, Mr A. A. Hopkins of the editorial staff of the *Scientific American*.

Mr Hopkins' collection of Dickensiana is valuable in that it includes nearly all the first editions of Dickens famous stories, numbering 167, and 837 prints, as well as autographed letters, photographs, and maps of places mentioned in these stories.

The report of the Public library of Malden, Mass., for 1921 records a circulation of 324,275v., a gain of 11 per cent. The registration is 13,377, or 27 per cent of the population of the city. The number of volumes on the shelves

is 78,502. The total expense for the year was \$34,858, divided as follows: Books, \$6040; binding, \$1701; salaries, \$18,195.

Two courses in reference work were conducted during the year by the reference librarian for the library assistants. A course of free lectures was made possible thru a bequest of \$10,000 received from Mr R. R. Robinson last summer.

Over 50 different meetings were held in the library during the year. An interesting exhibition was that of the City Planning Board showing the plans for the new civic center and general city improvement, together with plans from other cities. If the city plans are adopted, the library will be one of the most prominent buildings in the proposed group.

Central Atlantic

Dr and Mrs R. R. Bowker are spending five or six weeks in a cruise to Porto Rico and adjacent territory.

Mary C. Sherrard, B. L. S., N. Y. S., '15, has resigned as hospital librarian of the First Naval district, Boston, and will reorganize the library of Lincoln university, Pennsylvania.

Elinor Bedlow, Simmons, '17, formerly assistant librarian of the National Bank of Commerce in New York, has been appointed librarian of that institution.

Dr F. P. Hill, librarian of the Public library of Brooklyn, N. Y., left on February 3 for a three months' cruise on the Mediterranean. He expects to visit Madeira, Gibraltar, Algiers, Egypt, the Holy Land and adjoining territory before his return.

The report of the Public library,inghamton, N. Y., gives a total circulation of 238,509v., the largest in the history of the library. The reading rooms were used by 60,248 persons. A new branch library was opened in September. Exhibits were held in the library during the year and several lectures.

Alice L. Jewett, B. L. S., N. Y. S., '14, resigned her position as editor of the *Public Affairs Information Service Bulletin*, to become head of the mailing section of the Information service of the Rockefeller Foundation. She was succeeded, February 1, by Harriet N. Bircholdt, N. Y. S., '14-15, who has been her first assistant for more than a year.

Edith Edwards, N. Y. S., '16, succeeds Miss Bircholdt as first assistant on the editorial staff.

The report of the Enoch Pratt free library of Baltimore, Maryland, for 1921 states that the library served a population of 733,826. The city appropriation for last year was \$192,000. Books were distributed thru 103 agencies. The library was open 304 days and the circulation included 863,-765v., of which 366,558v. were fiction; number of borrowers, 56,473.

In addition to the appropriation from the city, the Pratt annuity yields \$50,000. Other receipts are: Sale of bulletins and finding lists, \$25; fines, \$5685, and miscellaneous receipts, \$812.

There was an increase in salaries of \$15,000.

The report of the Public library of Utica, New York for 1921 shows a circulation of 500,000v. among a population of about 100,000. Of the appropriation of \$64,040, a balance of 11c remains. The number of volumes on the shelves is 105,168. The reference department shows an attendance of 42,821 persons. The total circulation among the children in the schools was 261,618.

The first week in December, known as Parent's Week was most successful, a large number of parents visiting the library to see what was being done for the children. Displays of gift books, lists of suggestions for presents and other interesting things were on exhibit. A number of interesting exhibits were held at the library as well as club and class meetings.

The Bergen branch building of the Free public library of Jersey City is

near completion and it is expected that the building will be ready for occupancy in April.

The library is built of granite and light brown brick, trimmed with terra cotta and is located in the residential district, setting back about 20 feet from the building line.

There is provision for 18,000 volumes with room for expansion if necessary. The reading room occupies one entire side of the building and is 60 by 24 feet. On the opposite side is the children's room which is the same size. The basement contains an auditorium, fully equipped, and with a seating capacity of 300. The auditorium has a side entrance.

The branch building will cost approximately \$200,000. Plans for the building and choice of the architect were determined by anonymous competition, by which the design of Arthur Frederick Adams of Chicago was selected. Associated with Mr Adams, is John A. Gurd of New York City.

The Pavonia branch of the Jersey City public library opened about a year and a half ago in a disused liquor store in the down town section of the city, and from the start, has been so successful that it has been found necessary to enlarge it. The circulation for home reading in this branch alone for last year was 122,070v., while over 14,000 people used the reading and reference rooms.

In his report for 1921, Paul M. Paine, librarian of the Public library of Syracuse, mentions as the chief accomplishments of the year, the beginning of the improvement of the library branch situation, the coöperation with schools and the rearrangement of the circulation department on the main floor of the Carnegie building. The training of new workers for positions in the library has been given particular attention. Among the publications of the library, the Gold Star list of American fiction has "won favorable attention thruout the United States." A bequest of \$5000 from the estate of the

late Mrs Cornelia Bigelow has been received, the income to be used for the purchase of scientific books. Arrangements have been made for the "Workmen's compensation insurance" for the library employees.

Statistics of the library give the following: Number of volumes on the shelves, 161,688; additions during the year, 11,828; number of volumes lent for home use, 847,640; total number of borrowers, 76,339, of which 27,756 were registered during the year; population, 171,717.

Central

Kathleen Snow, Simmons, '20, has accepted a position in the children's department of the Public library of Des Moines, Iowa.

Announcement has been received of the marriage of Miss Edith May Patterson, Pratt, '16, to Mr Shelby Rider Meyer of Chicago.

The Newberry library will hold an exhibition of early maps and charts, with manuscripts relating thereto, during February and March, daily except Sunday.

Dorothy Davidson, Simmons, '19-20, was married to Cloyd Peoples Robb, December 31, 1921. Mr and Mrs Robb are living at 1734 East 90th St., Cleveland, Ohio.

Margaret C. Norton, B. L. S., N. Y. S., '15, will leave the Missouri State historical society library on April 1 to become head of the Illinois State Archives division at Springfield.

The Public library of Batavia, Illinois, has moved into a remodeled building which is said to be admirably fitted to the needs of the library. It was formerly a residence and was bought at a low price. It is of substantial brick and stone construction.

Col Elliot Whitlock, formerly a member of the library board of Cleveland, Ohio, and chairman of the building committee, has been named at a salary of \$10,000 to supervise the construction of Cleveland's new \$4,000,000 library building.

Much regret is expressed at the recent resignation from the staff of Frederick P. Jordan, assistant librarian for 30 years, of the University of Michigan. Mr Jordan is spoken of as a man of extraordinary attainments and the service he rendered was of the highest quality.

Speaking of the 50 years of service celebration held January 12 in the Public library of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Mr Ranck, the librarian, says:

We think the celebration was very much worth while. It was the means not only of recalling the past of the library to the attention of the people, but also presenting to the public some of its present and future problems.

Ralph T. Emerson, who has been with the University of Michigan library and previously in charge of camp libraries, has been appointed librarian of the Public library of Jackson, Michigan, to succeed Carl E. Browning, who resigned to become librarian at Hamilton, Ontario.

Burton E. Stevenson, librarian of the Public library of Chillicothe, Ohio, has joined the French commission of African affairs on an official and diplomatic visit to all the tribes and government posts throughout the French Algerian possessions. Mr Stevenson will serve the commission as English secretary.

The Reddick public library of Ottawa, Illinois is using newspaper publicity to push the reading of two good books of fiction or non-fiction during Lent. The ministers of the city are coöperating and are leaving at the public library books from their own libraries, with notes and recommendations. Considerable interest is aroused over the plan.

The report of Burton E. Stevenson of the Public library of Chillicothe, Ohio, states that for the first time in its history the number of books circulated by the library has passed 100,000. The tax income for the library is \$4983, the income from other sources making a total of \$6784. Of

this amount, \$2364 is spent for books. The population of the place is 16,000.

The report of the Louisville public library shows "more books borrowed, more persons registered, more serious reading done than during any of the library's previous 17 years." This in spite of reduced funds. One-fifth of the registration was added during the year. This does not include many children who use the school libraries and station branches. The children's use of the books was 40 per cent of the total. Half of the circulation was carried on thru the branches of which there are 412 centers of distribution.

The appropriation to the Carnegie library of Atlanta for 1922 is \$114,323. Of this amount, \$14,281 was brought over from 1921 as part of a contract for a new building, so that the new appropriation for 1922 is \$100,042. This is an increase of \$18,033 over the appropriation for 1921, not taking into consideration a gift of \$10,000 made by Fulton county in 1921 towards the construction of a branch library building.

The appropriation provides for the completion of a new branch which was started in 1921 and its maintenance for nine months and for the opening of another branch in rented quarters in another part of the city. An appropriation of \$3500 was made to build a new book stack at the main library and a fund of \$1000 was provided to put a deposit collection of books in East Atlanta school from which the immediate community will be served. The staff was increased by several new assistants in addition to the staff for the new branches.

West

Helen Treat, N. Y. S., '17-18, has joined the staff of the Public library of Omaha, Neb., temporarily.

Carrie M. Jones, Simmons, '19, for two years with the Minneapolis public library, has been appointed head of the catalog department at the University of Idaho, at Moscow.

The report of the Public library of Omaha, Nebraska, for 1921 records the number of borrowers as 47,640; home circulation, 565,299; population, 191,601; number of books on the shelves, 168,524; expenditures for the year, \$85,746. The library, during the year, has received a bequest of \$7687.

Pacific Coast

Rosamond McIntosh, Pratt, '14, has been appointed to the branch department of the Library association of Portland, Oregon.

Rosamond McIntosh, Pratt, '17, has been appointed first assistant in the branch department of the Library association of Portland.

Mrs L. A. Browder, librarian at Duncan, Oklahoma, is on leave of absence and attending Library Service school in Riverside, California.

Ruth L. Brown, N. Y. S., '16, has recently gone to Portland, Oregon, to assume her duties as first assistant in the reference department of the Public library.

Constance R. S. Ewing, Pratt, '19, is in charge of the three months' class for junior attendants which has recently been started in the Public library, Portland, Oregon.

Mignon Fisher, N. Y. S., '18, has been appointed head of the technical department of the Library association of Portland. Miss Fisher has been for two years librarian of the East Portland branch, and began her new duties February 1.

The last annual report of the Free library of Oakland, California, states that the million mark has been reached in circulation. The need of three more branches in new parts of the city is stressed. An insufficient book supply hampers the work of extension in many directions.

The library received a gift of \$10,000, the income of which is to be used for keeping up the Gibson Memorial library in the Melrose branch.

The number of volumes on the shelves is 135,266; the number of borrowers 50,388; the population 216,261; the circulation 1,800,328; total number of agencies, 20.

Webster Wheelock of St. Paul was appointed librarian of the Public library of that city, February 17. He is a native of St. Paul, the son of one of the founders and long-time editors of the *Pioneer Press*. He was graduated from Yale university in 1893, engaging afterwards in editorial work on various St. Paul newspapers till 1909. Since then, he has been engaged in mortgage and life insurance business. He has served on a number of public committees and boards and is a student of municipal government.

The semi-annual meeting of the Indiana Florists' Association was held in January in the auditorium of the Indianapolis public library. For the first time in the history of the association the accompanying exhibit of rare and lovely flowers was thrown open to the public, being displayed this year in the beautiful delivery room of the library. The riot of colors and blooms with the sober background of books and grey marble made a memorable event in Indianapolis library history.

The report of the Public library of Eveleth records a nine per cent increase in the use of the library. The non-fiction circulated was 43 per cent of the whole. The circulation thru deposit stations was 50 per cent, an increase over previous years. There was a circulation of 74,579v.; 10,000 pictures and post cards, which with the stereographs, had a circulation of 59,357. The registration shows 3698 borrowers. There were 544 meetings held in the club rooms during the year, with an attendance of 10,880 persons. The need of more books, particularly in the children's department, is noted.

A note from the annual report of the Cleveland public library for 1920 relates to the inability of the library to keep up the book supply in proportion

to the book use. There was an increase of 13.2 per cent in circulation in the juvenile section, while the collection increased but 2 per cent.

The situation is badly complicated by the continued and rapid increase in the price of books, accompanied, in inverse ratio, by deterioration in the quality of paper and bindings which is greatly shortening the life of the books.

Dr Jacob Gartenstein, F. W. Turner, John C. Armstrong and A. C. Oldenburg were appointed new members of the Board of Trustees of the Chicago public library. Frank K. Tollkuehn, Lawrence Cuneo and Charles E. Schick were reappointed. James J. Healy, R. G. Shutter and Carl O. Beroth, old members, complete the board of nine directors required by law.

The Chicago public library, this year will come into a largely increased revenue, and with a full board of members, something that has been lacking for some time, considerable new activity is expected.

The annual report of the Director of libraries, University of Chicago, records the number of volumes, 623,423. The number of books and pamphlets in the complete University libraries is estimated to be well over a million. The record of readers in four of the 17 libraries was 1,089,139. The book circulation reached 504,580, more than half of these being taken from the General library and the rest from the departmental libraries. As yet 10 of the departmental libraries are not reporting circulation.

The library of the Chicago school of civics and philanthropy has been incorporated with that of the University libraries. Harper library is already suffering from a lack of space. Several classes of books have been moved to adjoining buildings.

There have been, within the year, 25 appointments and 29 resignations.

The annual report of the Newberry library of Chicago gives 400,000 books

and pamphlets on the shelves. Many of these are of special value, and include about 40,000v. in the Edward E. Ayer collection on the North American Indian; about 18,000v. in the Prince Bonaparte collection on linguistics; 20,000v. of Chinese, Japanese, Mongolian and Tibetan literature, history and philosophy, and over 4000 volumes in the new John M. Wing foundation on printing. A total of 6978 books, pamphlets and manuscripts were added during the year 1921, 1380 of which were gifts.

Among the rare and valuable books acquired during the year is a fine copy of the first printed edition of Plato's works, published in 1483; Richard Arnold's *Chronicle*, printed in Antwerp in 1503; a work on etymology written by Isidore of Seville and printed in Strassburg in 1472 by John Mentelin, the first printer in that city. This book contains a wooden cut reputed to be the first map ever printed.

Carl P. P. Vitz of the Public library of Cleveland, Ohio, has been elected librarian of the Public library of Toledo, Ohio, to succeed Mr H. S. Hirshberg who leaves to become state librarian of Ohio.

Mr Vitz is one of the most progressive of the younger class of librarians and has had extraordinarily good preparation in his work. He is a graduate of Western Reserve university (A. B.), where he also took the library course. He spent the year, 1907, in the New York state library school. He was for two years assistant librarian, District of Columbia and for three years, director's assistant in the New York state library school. Since 1912, he has been successively second and first vice-librarian of the Public library of Cleveland, where he has rendered distinguished service in the administration of that admirable institution. In 1921, he was president of the Ohio library association and was largely instrumental in securing some of the best library legislation that the state has ever had.

The report of the Public library of Evanston states that more than twice as many books were read in 1921 as before the war. The increase in non-fiction books was about 200 per cent, 147,108v. being circulated. The report points to the promptness and efficiency with which the public came to the rescue in the recent depletion of the appropriation as a notable testimony of the belief of the citizens in the public library. Thru popular subscription, a fund was provided to offset the reduction in the city taxes.

The number of card-holders equals 42 per cent of the population. An interesting fact is that the book-stores report a demand for identically the same books as the public library. This was true even in the second-hand stores. No check is kept on the number of books and magazines used inside the library, but the report estimates the number, conservatively, as 300,000 a year.

The Public library is the smallest of the three libraries in Evanston, and were the sum of the circulation of each possible, the per cent of reading would be greatly increased.

The annual report of the Public library of Chicago records a circulation of 7,472,768v. in a population of 2,701,709. The number of registered borrowers is 423,164.

Continuous reduction in operation was necessitated during the year by lack of means and assistants. The 45 branches were reduced to 29 and the branch service was further reduced by reducing the working schedule. The staff was reduced by dismissing 110 people. Notwithstanding these heavy reductions the total of volumes circulated fell short of the number for the previous year by only 180,000.

A new tax rate, yielding a revenue of \$1,250,000, more than 50 per cent higher than last year's figures, now makes it possible to resume all former activities.

The employees at the library now number 520, of which 449 belong to the

library service. The library now contains 1,099,711v.

The hospital service in the city has been greatly increased, especially in the great Cook County hospital. This service was begun in Chicago in March, 1919, and the report of the Chicago library states that this service "apparently antedates similar undertakings elsewhere that have attracted more attention." No publicity has been given this part of the work because of the large number of hospitals whose requests might easily have overwhelmed the ability of the library to meet them.

The Public library, Evansville, Ind., serving a population of about 100,000, circulated a book stock of less than 71,711 volumes 527,079 times, a turnover of 7.35. This was a gain of 50,079 over 1920. In 1921, the adult circulation was 227,806 while 299,273 books were read by children. The non-fiction total was 240,731. In addition to the above statistics, 5346 clippings and pictures were issued.

The book purchases for the year were 6504v. at a cost of \$8133; 2012v. were received as gifts. The withdrawals numbered 2619, leaving a total book stock at the year's end of 71,711. Of the 40,101 active borrowers, 5297 were new registrations.

In the local newspapers, 145 library articles, book lists and notices appeared; of these 100 were prepared by members of the staff. In addition to 100 reading lists prepared for club members, 2541 lists on 32 different subjects were compiled, mimeographed, and distributed thru the mails, public meetings, Community Welfare, Inc., and the Chamber of Commerce.

In the reference department, an effort was made to strengthen the correlation of the work of the library with the many activities and organizations of the city. The coöperation with the Chamber of Commerce, business colleges, high schools, night schools, Community Welfare, Inc., club women and the local chapter of the National asso-

ciation of Stationary engineers was especially close. As one phase of general publicity, several groups of individuals engaged in certain vocations were circularized. For this work, the reference librarian prepared reading lists which resulted in very definite returns at the business and technical branch.

During the year, the extension department organized 21 new stations in Vanderburgh county outside the city of Evansville and a County silent reading division; organized a school reference division, made 2414 station visits, repaired 11,241 books, inventoried 27 stations and circulated 277,750 books, a gain of 40,232.

Four members of the staff took the summer course offered by the Indiana library commission; five, that given by the University of Illinois library school; one is attending the New York State library school and one the St. Louis library school. Of a staff of 35, only six have had no technical training.

In October, the staff undertook a serious study of sociology, meeting twice each month. The discussion of each group of books is introduced by a lecture from an outside authority.

The total receipts for the year were \$86,170; the total disbursements were \$60,129, leaving a balance January 1, 1922, of \$26,040. This balance must carry forward the work of the library until the next tax money is available in June.

South

Catherine Damon, Simmons, '20, has been appointed assistant in the Public library, Montgomery, Alabama.

Dorothy Nunn, Simmons, '11, has been appointed head of the circulation department of the Public library of Houston, Texas.

Louise Richardson, Pratt, '13, has been appointed assistant librarian at Marshall college, Huntington, West Virginia.

A medallion portrait of the late Madison Cawein, "the Keats of the

THE HEAD OF THE HOUSE OF COOMBE

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Mrs. Burnett's most beautiful love story—a
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land—a good adventure story. \$1.75.

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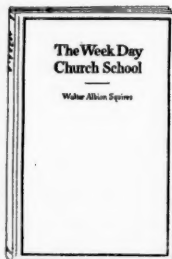
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York, Chicago, Cincinnati, Nashville, St. Louis, San
Francisco, Atlanta. (Colored) Pittsburgh.

Southland and Kentucky's and Louis-
ville's own poet," was presented to the
Public library of Louisville on Febru-
ary 2, by Prof Reuben Post Halleck.
The medallion was procured by sub-
scription as proposed by Dr T. W. H.
Howe of Boston. The medallion will
be encased in glass and placed in the
main lobby of the library.

Between 25,000 and 30,000 volumes,
many of them rare books, some of
which are out of print and cannot be
replaced, were destroyed in a fire
which swept the Baylor University li-
brary at Waco, Texas, on February
11. It is estimated that it will cost
\$250,000 to replace the building and the
loss in contents approximates \$51,000.
The library, erected about 20 years
ago, was the gift to Baylor university
of F. L. Carroll of Waco.

The formal opening of the Shawnee
branch of the Free public library of
Louisville, Kentucky, on the evening
of February 9 was a most enjoyable
affair. Addresses by Mayor Quin and
others whose efforts brought about the
building of the new branch made up
the evening's program. The building,
erected at a cost of \$3922, is the out-
come, chiefly, of the efforts of Shawnee
civic clubs. Mrs May McClure Currey
is the librarian.

Statistics of the Public library of
Jacksonville, Florida, show a greatly
increased use of the library over pre-
vious years. Number of volumes
loaned, 259,366, a net increase of 10-
000. Of this, 242,081 were loaned
from the central library building,
showing an average of 791 books taken
out every day that books were loaned.
Number of card holders, 18,412, show-
ing that 20 per cent of the population
makes use of the library. Books on the
shelves, 58,998.

Canada

The report of the Public library,
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, for 1921
gives the total circulation as 109,306v.,
an increase of 25 per cent; population,
20,000. Number of books in the li-
brary, 17,113. The total expenditures
for the year were \$12,826; \$2781 was

for books and magazines and \$6080 for administration and supplies.

A collection of books dealing with advertising has been established in the public libraries of 13 cities of Canada by the Canadian Press association. The collection of books is intended to perpetuate the memory of the late Mr Anson McKim and will be kept up as a memorial section on advertising topics.

Among the towns to receive the books are Halifax, St. Johns, Montreal, London, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria.

The annual report of the Public library of Toronto shows a marvelous increase in the use of its books. "One thousand each day is the measure of our increase." The Juvenile department alone issued over 500,000 books.

Very strong presentation is made of the need of extension of the quarters of the main library at College street where all classes of work are feeling very keenly the handicap from lack of space. The statistics show the use of 1,854,579 books. The personal tone of the report makes it interesting reading.

The report of the Earls court branch of the Public library of Toronto, which opened in its new building last year, shows that the circulation has doubled during the year. The enticing children's room is responsible for the very large increase in its numbers. The club room, with its friendly fire-place and alcoves for the display of exhibits, is crowded on Saturday mornings at the story hour. This room is becoming rapidly a source of practical education as a reference library for boys and girls preparing school work. In the alcoves are to be found manufacturers' samples of cocoa, glass, silk and pulp wood. The samples are related to the books on the shelves and the librarian aids the boys and girls in their research work. Among the borrowers in the adults' room are manufacturers who have become interested in this research work.

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Books that Appeal to Library Readers

THE PRIVATE CHARACTER OF QUEEN ELIZABETH

By Frederick Chamberlin

A vivid and compelling picture of the Queen to whom historians hitherto have ascribed an extraordinary combination of virtues and vices. The author goes so far as to state that she was "by far the greatest woman of history."

Illus. \$5.00

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To Georges Daniel de Monfried

Translated by Ruth Pielkovo

The fascinating but true story of Gauguin's life in the South Seas. These letters give us an intimate view of the genius who painted his great picture under the shadow of imminent death. Illustrated. \$3.00

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This is the third volume of *Essays and Criticisms* from the pen of the foremost of modern French writers. It covers a wide variety of subjects, such as Rabelais, Charles Baudelaire, Chinese Tales, Popular Songs of Old France, Joan of Arc, Paul Verlaine, Buddhism, Songs of the Chat Noir, and others. \$3.00

NEW CHURCHES FOR OLD

By John Haynes Holmes

A prophetic view of the new universal faith of the future—a view that affords prolific material for religious discussion. \$2.00

SAINT-SAENS

By Arthur Hervey

An illuminating narrative-biography of the eminent composer of "Samson and Delilah." It traces his career from earliest childhood and includes an appreciation of his compositions as well as a chapter on his literary works and opinions. Illus. \$2.00

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Foreign

Mr E. A. Savage has been made librarian of the city library of Edinburgh. Library periodicals speak of the appointment as being extremely fitting and well deserved.

"Mr Savage is a progressive librarian and a man of original ideas and boundless energy. He has completely reorganized the Coventry libraries along the most modern lines, making them equally valuable for the general reader and the large number of technical workers in that city. He is keenly interested in everything pertaining to the education of library assistants and the ultimate raising of the status of librarianship."

Elizabeth B. Steere, in charge of library work thru the Y. M. C. A. for the American soldiers remaining in the Rhine country, writes of the recent gift from the A. L. A. as follows:

Never could a thousand dollars have been spent to better advantage than that which you invested in books for the American forces in Germany. They have come at a most opportune time. We have had no new books other than an occasional gift since the last A. L. A. shipment came over a year ago, and it has been an increasingly difficult problem to maintain interest in the library. Besides adding many names to our list of borrowers, the new books are bringing back to us those who had given up coming to the library because we had nothing different to offer. In fact, they have put new life into all of us.

There were 702 books in the shipment, 57 titles of fiction and 37 of non-fiction. They were all new titles for us and were most carefully chosen, exactly the sort of collection we were in need of. We accessioned about 275 of them for the Main library. The others were distributed to the libraries in the 13 Y. M. C. A. huts, (12 in and around Coblenz, and 1 at Antwerp) to our two regimental libraries, to the library at the Station hospital, and to the Salvation Army. The whole army is thus having an equal chance at them, and all the men are aware of the fact that

altho the A. L. A. is no longer here in the flesh, it is still vitally interested.

Wanted—To buy a catalog tray case, known as "32 size L. B. construction"; any number of drawers. Address Public library, Joliet, Ill.

Wanted—*Review of Reviews*, v. 1-5 inclusive; v. 8; v. 39-42 inclusive; v. 46. *The Century*, v. 93. *Independent*, v. 75-92 inclusive. *The Bookman*, any vols. back of vol. 40. Address, Katharyne Sleneau, McGregor public library, Highland Park, Michigan.

Wanted—Public Libraries for February, 1922

A most unexpected demand for PUBLIC LIBRARIES for February, 1922, which came while the manager was out of the office on account of illness has exhausted the supply of that number. In consequence, this office can use 100 copies if they can be had.

Earnest request is made, therefore, that anyone wishing to dispose of PUBLIC LIBRARIES for February, send them to this office immediately, setting the price for the same. Remittance will be made on receipt of the magazine. PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 6 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago.

The amount of ignorance that exists, even among those who enjoy the opportunities of a modern educational institution, concerning the most common things about us is astounding. In our efforts to learn more of the orange tree or the palm we fail to study and appreciate the wonderful laws of nature demonstrated by the elm in our own back yard. If the botany teacher does not make use of the material at hand in illustrating scientific facts she will fail to create and hold the interest of high-school students in this subject. The fifteen-year-old boy does not care about the orange scale, but he would like to watch the ants on the rose bush milk their cows, the plant lice, or to know that the fish worm eats dirt to get bacteria which constitute his menu.—*Teaching*.